

Family set on paying kidnappers

The family of Mr Bernard Dunne, the kidnapped Irish businessman, remain determined to hand over the £500,000 ransom demanded despite being prevented from doing so by police action on three occasions. The search for Mr Dunne is being concentrated in a small area around Crossnacreevy, Armagh, and Backballcross in Co Louth. Page 2

Swan & Edgar to close

The Swan & Edgar department store is to close in the new year. The department store is selling the building in Piccadilly Circus because it does not think the investment needed to make the store more profitable would be worthwhile. Page 2

TUC warning to Tebbit

The TUC has given a private warning to Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Employment, that any further union legislation will prove disruptive. Union leaders are drawing up plans to resist any fresh cuts on their powers. A campaign is being planned for when proposals for Labour law reform are revealed. Page 3

Docherty cleared of perjury

Tommy Docherty, manager of Preston North End Football Club, was cleared of perjury at the Central Criminal Court. He had denied two offences allegedly committed while giving evidence in 1978 in his libel action against Willie Morgan, a former Manchester United footballer, and Granada Telefootball. Page 4

Nationality Bill through Lords

The British Nationality Bill completed its passage through the House of Lords, but only after bitter criticism from the Archbishop of Canterbury. In the view of leaders of all the churches, the Bill was questionable when judged by moral principles. Page 9

Nurses arrested in Zimbabwe

To break up demonstrations in Salisbury by striking nurses and teachers, Zimbabwe enforced a ban on political rallies last week. Truncheon-wielding police arrested 75 people who were later released. Police were ordered to break up any future demonstrations. Page 6

Police can evict site protesters

The Court of Appeal ruled that demonstrators in Cornwall who, at the invitation of the landowner, have been keeping the Central Electricity Generating Board from surveying a site for a nuclear power station may be removed by Mr John Alderson, the chief constable. Back page

999 police car killed cyclist

A police driver answering a late night emergency call went to the wrong side of road bollards at an alleged speed of 60 mph and killed a cyclist aged 18 who was making a right turn in front of him. It was alleged at Oxford Crown Court. Page 4

Solidarity bans protest action

The leadership of the Solidarity Independent Trade Union Movement in Poland issued a directive to all branches to abstain from protest action; but warned the Government against its declaration of seeking parliamentary approval to suspend the right to strike. Page 6

Leader page 13
Letters: On BL from Mr D. J. Buckle, and Mr B. Yeate-Brown; prison inspections, from Mr G. L. Thorpe, and Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC; disarmament, from Rev Dr Kenneth Greet, and Mr Nicolas Walker.
Leading articles: National Freight Corporation; Iran; CEB v Alderson.
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How Nigel Lawson stirred up Energy; Henry Fairlie on the real Republicans; crisis time for Czech dissidents; The Times Profile of the Manpower Services Commission; Solidarity; Poland's male preserve.
Sri Lanka: a five-page Special Report to mark the state visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh.

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Cabinet fails to agree cuts in public spending

By Julian Haviland, Political Editor

After three hours of difficult discussion, the Cabinet failed yesterday to agree on the overall amount of cuts required in next year's planned level of public expenditure. The Treasury's request for total cuts of some £5,000m to keep spending in line with the medium-term strategy met firm resistance from the majority of the Cabinet. Ministers said afterwards that there was little chance of more than half that total being achieved.

A head count of those around the Cabinet table in Downing Street indicated that of 21 ministers present, only eight supported the Treasury, including Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Prime Minister, and the two Treasury ministers, Sir Geoffrey Howe, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Mr Leon Brittan (Secretary to the Treasury). Lord Hailsham, the Lord Chancellor, and Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence, were absent.

At the end of the debate, the first attempt by the new Cabinet to find common ground on public expenditure levels, the Prime Minister was reported to have asked his colleagues to "go away and do the best you can". Mrs Thatcher leaves today for the North-South summit in Mexico. Meanwhile, Mr Brittan is to resume at once his task of tackling, by one of his colleagues who head the spending departments, in the hope of persuading them to reduce their demands. His prospects of success looked poor last night.

Collective discussion in Cabinet will be resumed a week on Thursday. The Treasury hopes that broad agreement will have been reached, for better or worse, by the third week of November. A little information was officially available after the meeting, several accounts said that support for the Treasury came from the new members: promoted to the Cabinet last month, Mr Nigel Lawson (Energy), himself a former member of the Treasury team, Mr Norman Tebbit (Employment) and Mr Cecil Parkinson (Chairman of the Conservative Party), as well as Sir Keith Joseph (Education) and Mr Norman Fowler (Social Services).

But a powerful speech against the Treasury case was made by Mr John Biffen, the former Chief Secretary to the Treasury and now Secretary of State for Trade. Mr Biffen was moved from the Treasury by the Prime Minister last January after he signalled his doubts about the strategy which was formerly upheld. At a meeting of the Conservative backbench finance committee, he had described the M3 measure of monetary

56,000 adults lost their jobs last month

By David Blake, Economics Editor

Unemployment stayed below the politically sensitive three million mark in October because more than 50,000 school leavers found jobs.

But the figures concealed a sharp rise in the underlying rate of unemployment, with the number of adults out of work increasing by 56,200 once allowance is made for seasonal factors, the biggest jump for six months.

The total figure for people out of work in October was 2,998,644, a drop of 10,145 on the September level. The percentage of the working population unemployed stayed constant at 12.4 per cent, or about one in eight of the workforce. Seasonal factors mean that unemployment among the total population is likely to fall again next month, but the steady rise in the underlying figure suggests that the three million figure will be breached in December or January.

The latest figures were denounced as shameful by Mr Michael Foot in the House of Commons, who announced that the Labour Party would demand a censure debate. A group of job protesters were also ejected from the public gallery at the House.

Others to express their concern were Mr Len Murray, of the TUC, and Sir Raymond Pennock, of the CBI. The most worrying feature for the Government is that the increase in the underlying level of unemployment seems to be picking up again after easing off in the summer.

The underlying rate of increase dropped to only 30,000 a month in July but has risen steadily since then to its present level of 56,000 a month. It is still too early to be sure that this worsening will turn into a definite trend, however. There are now slightly more vacancies on offer at employment exchanges than there were a few months ago. It seems likely that the economy's output stopped falling at some point in the summer.

Brezhnev attacks Reagan's 'madness'

By Our Foreign Staff

President Brezhnev in an interview published today, joined battle with President Reagan over the latter's claims that Moscow believed in the possibility of victory in a nuclear war.

In a scathing response to Mr Reagan's recent remarks which the American leader had used to justify Washington's accelerated nuclear arms programme, Mr Brezhnev told Pravda that it was a "dangerous madness" for anyone to count on victory in a nuclear war.

"Only he who has decided to commit suicide can start a nuclear war in the hope of emerging a victor from it," Mr Brezhnev said.

No matter what might the attacker possess, no matter what method of unleashing nuclear war he chooses, he will not attain his aims. Retribution will ensue ineluctably.

In his comments, published in today's issue of the official Soviet newspaper, Mr Brezhnev did not make any direct reference to the latest controversy over President Reagan's recent remarks about the United States possibly surviving unscathed from a nuclear exchange in Europe.

Mr Brezhnev, who was answering questions put to him by a correspondent of Pravda, said that the efforts of the Soviet leadership were directed at preventing nuclear war altogether — at eliminating the very danger of its outbreak.

"Why was the United States not supporting the proposal made by the Soviet Union at the current session of the United Nations General Assembly to forego any first nuclear strike?"

Yesterday at the Nato Defence Ministers' meeting at Genoa, British and American officials, including Mr Caspar Weinberger, the United States Defence Secretary, were at pains to dismiss any suggestion that the impromptu answer to the nuclear threat by the Soviet Union could become a divisive issue in the alliance.

The controversy largely surrounded one sentence in which he said: "I could see where you could have the exchange of tactical (nuclear) weapons against troops in the field without it bringing either one of the major powers to pushing the button."

At the end of a debate in which there was little discussion of what each department might contribute by way of cuts, ministers were saying last night that one thing was clear — that the Prime Minister, in spite of having last month promoted several loyal supporters to her Cabinet, is no nearer to commanding the support of the majority of her colleagues on the central question of economic strategy.

For every supporter she has recruited, one minister said, she has lost another to the opposing camp.

Back in the ring, page 2

WILL PARKER — if Sheriff Reagan has a shoot-out in the O.K. Corral, I'm aiming to leave town pronto.

The international newspaper on the subject of the Soviet Union's nuclear strategy was yesterday described by the union leader as the country's most disastrous industrial dispute since the war, will failing agreement, begin to formulate contingency plans next week for the liquidation of the company.

Union officials are due to meet management negotiators tomorrow but, on the issue of pay, will be confronted with a Government-backed BL determination not to improve on its 3.3 per cent pay offer to car workers.

If no compromise is agreed within the next few days, the BL board is expected to announce a strike by BL workers before the end of the month. At its weekly meeting, BL's board of directors will decide whether to abandon its 1980 contingency plan.

Mr Roy Horrocks, chairman of BL Cars, said yesterday that Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for Industry, understood the BL board's position and that the Government's intention was to support the BL board's decision to go ahead with the strike.

Mr Horrocks said that while the labour force had been reduced by 40 per cent, productivity had increased by 30 per cent. "We have gone from a situation where one man was producing seven cars a year to one where production is 24 cars a man per year."

Leiyand union negotiators are to report formally on the outcome of Friday's mass meetings to the 200 senior stewards at Canley and then to meet management to discuss the separate and unresolved issue of the working week.

Mr Horrocks said that BL had no plans at present for liquidation nor were there plans for a ballot of the workforce. The BL Cars chairman was speaking at the press preview of Motorfair, the first motor show to be held in London for four years, at which one of the stars is the Triumph Acclaim, BL's new saloon car, which is being built at Cowley in collaboration with Honda of Japan.

After only two weeks on sale, the Acclaim is selling 3.5 per cent off the home car market and 2,000 have been sold to fleet buyers. Mr Horrocks said he did not regret the letter sent to workers before the strike vote which attempted to point out that job prospects at the Longbridge and Cowley factories were as good as those for any one in the country.



Workers at National Carriers' depot near Paddington station, London, yesterday. Soon they may be part-owners of the business (Photograph by Brian Harris).

We just can't lose, the freight workers say

By a Staff Reporter

The idea of the workers owning their own business, proposed for the state-owned National Freight Corporation, got a thumbs down from a senior official of Britain's biggest union yesterday. "It's a terrible idea, a con," Mr Alex Kitson, deputy general secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union said.

But drivers, warehousemen, and clerks of the corporation, interviewed in London yesterday were full of enthusiasm. "I don't think we can lose," said Miss Margaret Hansford, aged 57, a clerical officer who intends to take advantage of

the banking consortium's £2m fund to enable staff to borrow up to £200 interest-free for a year to buy shares. And the National Union of Railwaysmen disavowed from the TGWU. "We welcome this initiative. We are opposed to privatization, but this is preferable in that the staff retain an interest."

The sale by the Government, at a knockdown price of £53.5m, is dependent on the 25,000 staff's finding out at least £2m out of their own pocket by the new year.

At least three fifths of the staff are expected to take up shares in the company. It is a

varied enterprise owning 15,000 lorries, which makes it Britain's biggest road transport fleet. It moves fish from port to port, dinner tables, house furniture, timber, and parcels. It removes waste, warehouses almost anything, and runs a travel agency business.

It is much decentralised with 500 to 600 depots, each with its own profit and loss account, already a keen sense of business among the staff.

Mr Ron Peterson, aged 61, a driver, said: "We haven't a problem here with strikes and trouble between management and employees, but people should work together even

better. I think that we are on a winner." Mr Michael McSweeney, aged 29, a warehouseman, said frankly: "The least successful elements should fall by the wayside. It sounds brutal, but it should make it easier to prune and cut back. It offers pride in participation. It gives people a say in the firm they work for and that should make it more successful."

Mr Peter Thompson, aged 53, the corporation's chief executive, who is the architect of the sale and is putting in £40,000 himself, does not predict an overnight revolution. Continued on back page, col 6

BL to stand firm in face of strike call

By Edward Townsend and David Macintyre

BL, the state-owned motor group, will stand firm in the face of a union leader described yesterday as the country's most disastrous industrial dispute since the war, will failing agreement, begin to formulate contingency plans next week for the liquidation of the company.

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Big book on India wins Booker again

By Philip Howard, Literary Editor

Salman Rushdie, a young Indian who lives in London, was awarded the Booker Prize last night for his novel, *The Satanic Verses*, published by Jonathan Cape.

His victory confirms the literary folklore that the favourite in the betting usually wins Britain's most valuable prize for fiction; and that the judges tend to look favourably on big books about India. It is a frivolous way to look at good books.

The children in the tide of the winning novel are the son and one of his sisters, who have been born in the mid-nineteenth century of India's independence. The children born in that magic hour are said in the novel to be endowed with an extraordinary talent; and the privilege and curse of being both natives and victims of their times. The hero and narrator of the book finds himself



Salman Rushdie: £10,000 prize for "magic hour".

mysteriously coincided to his story by the coincidence of his birth.

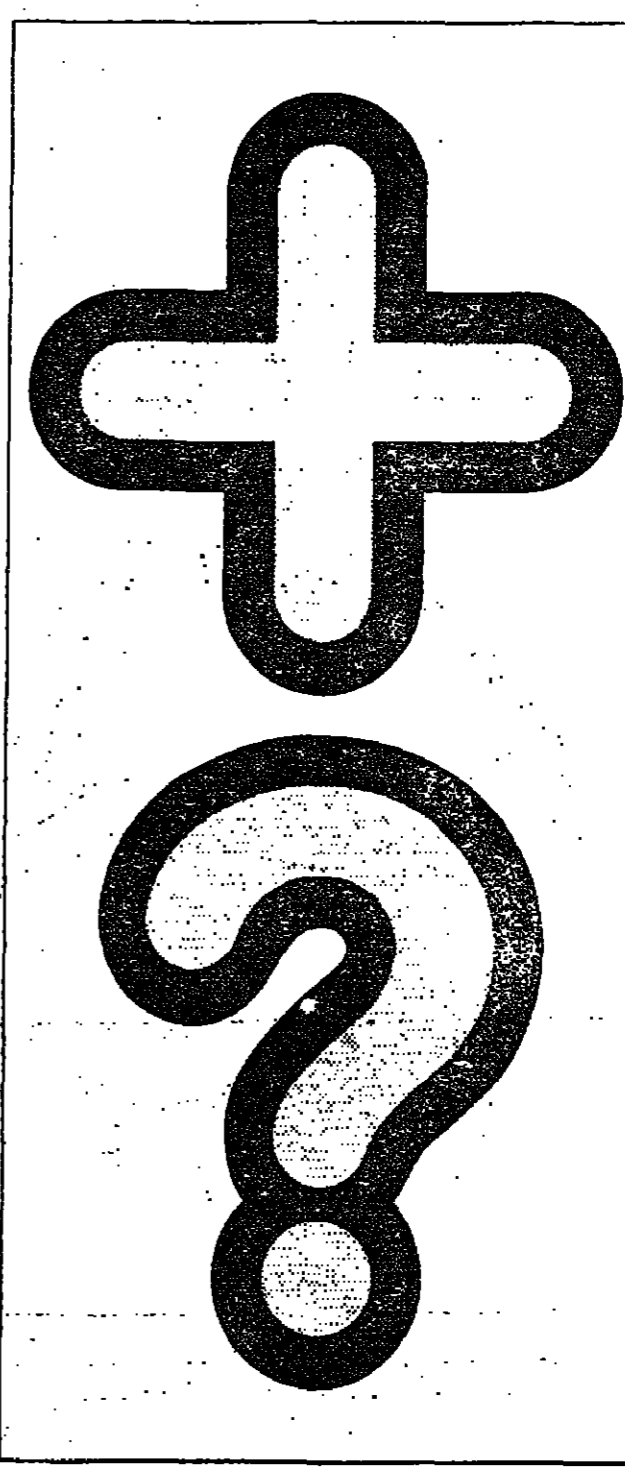
Behind the magic and the symbolism there is a colourful old-fashioned family historical saga, into which real characters

like Nehru and Shaikh Mujibh Bangladesh make guest appearances.

Salman Rushdie was born in Bombay in June 1947. He is the author of one previous novel, *Grimy's*. His publishers had three books in the short list of seven for the prize, worth £10,000.

Professor Malcolm Bradbury, the chairman of the judges announced the award at a time to suit television schedules, but calculated to cause the maximum inconvenience to the daily press. Distinguished literary editors, who had not broken into more than a shuffle for years, had to scramble for the single telephone in Stationers' Hall, City.

Presenting the cheque, and a leather-bound copy of his work to Salman Rushdie, Professor Bradbury described his book as "a brilliant experimental novel, but also a very funny book."



Unions will fight new curbs, TUC tells Tebbit

By Paul Roodledge, Labour Editor

Mr Norman Tebbit, the new Secretary of State for Employment, has been privately warned by the TUC that any further legislation on the trade unions will prove disruptive, and union leaders are already drawing up plans to resist any fresh curbs on their powers.

A confidential policy paper prepared for a meeting today of the TUC Employment Policy and Organisation Committee gives details of a warning letter to the minister from Mr Len Murray, TUC general secretary, and sketches out a big new campaign against labour law reform.

In his letter to Mr Tebbit, Mr Murray catalogues the wide range of serious and damaging consequences for British industry and industrial relations that restrictive legislation of the type the Government is currently contemplating would entail.

He asks Mr Tebbit to give serious attention to the views of the TUC. Mr Murray adds: "To proceed with any such legislation would prove disruptive, and I strongly urge instead that you devote your full attention to tackling the problem that should be your department's—and the Government's—top priority, namely the devastating

level of unemployment now prevailing in this country."

The background paper discloses that as soon as Mr Tebbit comes forward with a consultative document or a Bill to diminish further the powers of the unions, there will be special internal talks "on the form of campaigning activities which can best further the TUC's opposition to the legislation."

The main aims of such a campaign are:

- 1 To brief trade union officials and activists on the implications of the Government's proposals;
- 2 To win support from union members, employers, MPs and the public for the approach adopted by Congress;
- 3 To develop strategies to resist, as far as possible, the adverse effects on trade union activities of the new legislation when implemented.

Congress House experts on labour law have been set to work preparing draft changes in legislation necessary if a forthcoming Labour government chooses to act in three areas: trade union immunities and closed shop agreements; statutory support for collective bargaining, and employment protection measures and individual employees' rights.

EXIT man 'dreamt of saving NHS'

By Our Labour Editor

A member of EXIT, the voluntary euthanasia society, dreamt of saving the National Health Service by helping people who wanted to die, the Central Criminal Court was told yesterday.

Mark Lyons was alleged to have told police: "No country can survive ailing population. The law in this country is so imbecilic. My dream is to have my own healing centre where my hands could help them. Having an aged population, there are too many people to be sustained by the health service. I am boarding pills."

"If you change the law so people who want to die can die, they can look at a book and, hey presto, the health service will be saved."

Mr Lyons, aged 70, who is accused of murder and aiding and abetting suicides, was said to have made his remarks during interviews with police after his arrest.

Mr Lyons, of Fairbairn Gardens, West Hampstead, north London, has denied murdering Mrs Isabella Ward, aged 90, on February 20 last year. Mr Lyons and Nicholas Read, aged 33, of New Cross, London, are charged with the murder of Mrs Ward to commit suicide.

The trial continues today.

DENTIST IS ACCUSED OF RAPE

A dentist had sexual intercourse with a girl patient in his surgery, a jury was told yesterday.

Mr Brian Appleby, QC, for the prosecution, told Nottingham Crown Court that the girl, aged 19, who had gone to have a tooth filled had been given an injection of valium which rendered her semi-conscious. While lying in the dentist's chair she felt his hands slide down her chest and feel her breasts. Then the dentist placed his penis in her hand.

The next thing she remembered, counsel said, was that her stomach and legs were bare and a man was lying on top of her moving up and down and breathing heavily.

The next day, Mr Appleby said, the dentist visited the girl at her home and gave her four more injections of valium.

The girl said, counsel added, that the dentist then had oral sex with her.

The dentist has denied raping and attempting to rape the girl on January 5 and 6. The case continues today.

AUEW DISPUTE SEEMERS ON

The constitutional wrangle between right and left in the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers is likely to simmer for some weeks after a demand from the union's internal appeals court for a meeting with the union's executive (Our Labour Correspondent writes).

The AUEW's executive yesterday agreed to defer any discussion of the court's decision that an electoral rule was breached during Mr Torrie Duffy's campaign to be re-elected as president last year until a report has been compiled by Sir John Boyd, the union's general secretary.

FOUR FOR ART THEFT TRIAL

Four men accused in connection with the theft of the film Rembrandt "Jacob de Gheyn III", were committed for trial at the Central Criminal Court by Camberwell magistrates yesterday.

Whitehall unions copy the miners

By Our Labour Editor

Union leaders of 530,000 white-collar civil servants are working on a new joint pay claim of the sort that gave rise to the lengthy dispute involving government employees earlier this year.

First steps towards a common pay strategy were taken at a meeting yesterday of the major policy committee of the Council of Civil Service Unions (CCSU), but the final shape of the salary demand will not be known before the end of next month.

Civil Service union leaders are taking a leaf out of the miners' book in delaying their pay initiative until the outlook for the 1981-82 wage round becomes clearer. They do not want to hasten a ruling from the Cabinet that civil servants are bound by the Chancellor's 4 per cent limit on salary rises.

Mr Gerry Gillman, general secretary of the 108,000-member Society of Civil and Public Servants (SCPS), said last night: "The general desire is to achieve a central claim if we can, because people see the obvious difficulties in proceeding any other way."

There are differences among the unions about priorities. The largest union, the Civil and Public Services Association, wants to focus attention on the elimination of low pay, while the SCPS argues that Government employees should seek to match the best deal in the public sector.

But leaders of the Institution of Professional Civil Servants are under pressure from some key groups to go ahead with separate claims for bigger rises than are likely to be offered to lower-paid Whitehall staff.

Independent assessor on police is agreed

From John Chartres, Manchester

The experimental appointment of a civilian community officer to handle complaints made against the police was agreed in principle by the policy committee of Greater Manchester County Council yesterday when it accepted the report of the independent tribunal into last July's Moss Side riots.

The committee's decision will go before the full council later this month, but detailed action on the report's recommendations will have to await a meeting of the police committee next month, and possibly the publication of the Scarman report on the summer riots.

Council leader Brian Fallow, the Conservative leader, said the report contained too many criticisms of the police and not enough criticism of those who had allowed the current social conditions and high unemployment to arise in the Moss Side area.

An inquiry was ordered last night into allegations of police harassment during the Toxteth riots (the Press Association reports). Heavy-handed policing and discrimination against black youths are among the claims that will be investigated by the Merseyside Police Committee. Yesterday the committee considered an interim report on the rioting produced by 18 county councillors who interviewed community groups in the area.

The councillors were told of alleged discrimination and racist abuse against young blacks. The police complaints procedure was described as a "farce" and many people were said to fear reprisals.

Mr Peter Wright, the deputy chief constable, is to investigate claims that people who complained were arrested "on the flimsiest of evidence."

A solicitor made an official complaint to the police at Toxteth yesterday, claiming "vital evidence had been 'corrupted' from the sister of a man injured in the riots (our Liverpool Correspondent writes)."

Mr Robert Broudie, acting for Mr Ken Anderson, who is claiming compensation, said Nurse Pearl Merton was deceived into handing over clothes worn by her brother to police when he was hit by a CS gas canister.

Simon Alexander Los, aged 18, a chemistry student who distributed leaflets headed "Burn Babylon, Burn" three days after the riots in Nottingham last July, was jailed for three years by Nottingham Crown Court yesterday (Our Nottingham Correspondent writes).

Miss Jean Weir, a nurse of Goldthorpe Lane, Brimston, was cleared yesterday by Lambeth magistrates of throwing bricks at police during the Brixton riot in April (the Press Association reports).

A student accused of assaulting police officers during a street rampage, after a fair in Finsbury Park, north London in April, changed his plea on one charge yesterday. Oluwate Otesanya, of Highbury, London, admitted assaulting Sergeant David Rowe with intent to avoid lawful arrest.

A 26-year-old Crown Court he still denies further charges of causing grievous bodily harm to Police Commander James Dickinson with intent, causing bodily harm to Commander Dickinson, and causing actual bodily harm to Chief Superintendent Carson, and the hearing continues today.

Statistics: Crime

Youth at top in record total of offences

By Stewart Tindler, Crime Reporter

The number of offenders convicted or cautioned for serious offences last year in England and Wales reached a record of 556,000, the Home Office said yesterday. The 1979 figure was 509,000.

People found guilty or cautioned for both serious (indictable) offences and serious (summary) offences totalled 1,060,000, compared with 995,000 in 1979.

For serious offences, male juveniles aged 14 to 17 received the highest number of convictions per head of population. The next age and sex group was males aged 17 to 21.

Overall, offenders aged under 21 years accounted for 53 per cent of all convictions for serious offences and predominated in robbery, burglary, and criminal damage.

Figures for serious offences recorded by the police, published last March, showed a 1980 total of 2.2 million in England and Wales. The statistics issued yesterday show that 80 per cent were for theft and handling stolen goods. Fifty-six per cent of convictions were for the same offences.

Statistics: Education

10,000 teaching jobs lost

The number of teachers in England and Wales was reduced by 10,028 last year, according to figures released yesterday by the Department of Education and Science.

State nursery, primary and secondary schools lost 9,343 teachers in 1980, while in England over the two-year period since 1979, when numbers peaked, there has been a total drop of 11,500, mainly in primary schools.

The figures mainly reflect the falling numbers of pupils, but according to the department, the teaching force in

January, 1981, was still nearly 5,000 more than had been allowed for in public expenditure plans. The figures also show a very slight worsening of the pupil-teacher ratio in state schools.

The total teaching force in England and Wales in January, 1981, was 565,258 compared to 575,286 in the previous year.

The number of nursery, primary and secondary school teachers fell to 446,765, while the remainder, 118,493, made up mainly of 73,159 college lecturers and 18,799 teachers in special schools, fell by 685.



Legacy of a recluse nation

A spectacular Sumo wrestling hold captured in eighteenth century ivory is one of a unique collection of Japanese art works which goes on show at the Royal Academy, Piccadilly, on Saturday.

The Great Japan exhibition, which is expected to attract record crowds, brings together for the first time more than 400 works of the Edo period of 1600 to 1868, when Japan virtually shut herself

off from the outside world. The exhibits, including embroidered kimonos, silk prints, armour and ceramics, are housed in specially-built glass cases.

Many are so delicate that they can go on show for only 50 days at a time and will be changed for other exhibits half way through the exhibition. The exhibition runs until February 21. (Photograph by Brian Harris).

Junior article referred to Attorney General

An article by Sir John Junior, editor of the *Sunday Express*, was referred yesterday to the Attorney General after being severely criticized by the judge in the Down's syndrome baby murder trial.

The move came after a complaint on Monday by Mr George Carman, QC, defending Dr Leonard Arthur, aged 65, a consultant paediatrician. Dr Arthur, of Church Broughton, Derbyshire, has pleaded not guilty to the murder last July of John Pearson, aged three days, at Derby City Hospital.

Mr Andrew Collins, representing Sir Michael Havers, QC, the Attorney General, and Mr Geoffrey Shaw, for *Express* Newspapers, attended Leicester Crown Court yesterday. After the legal discussions, Mr Justice Farquharson told the jury that last week counsel for Dr Arthur had drawn his attention to an article in a national newspaper. Mr Justice Farquharson said he had decided to remit that matter to the Attorney General.

He said this, although he had said no other such article should be published during the trial, the *Sunday Express* had published an article dealing speci-

The judge said he was initially tempted to proceed in a summary fashion against the owners of the *Sunday Express*, but that he had been pressed by Mr Collins not to do so. Despite his reservations, he would therefore remit the matter to the Attorney General.

Nevertheless, if another similar article was published he would act on the spot against the writer and the directors of the publishing company.

Mr Douglas Draycott, QC, who is leading for the Crown, has alleged that John Pearson was given the drug DF113 which suppressed his appetite and impaired his breathing. Counsel said that course of treatment was designed to cause the death of the baby after he had been rejected by his parents.

Mr Patrick Towland, a consultant biochemist, said he had seen a report of an analysis of the baby's blood.

The blood level of dihydrocodeine amounted to 7.4 micrograms a millilitre. A report on the liver showed 4.3 micrograms a gram.

The hearing continues today, finally with, and identifying, the case.

BROADMOOR GETS A NEW CHIEF

By Lucy Hodges

Dr Edgar Udwin has been named as the new medical Superintendent for Broadmoor top security hospital.

Dr Udwin, who will hold the post for 18 months until he retires at 65, is an unexpected choice, partly because of his age.

He has aroused controversy on the past over his decisions to recommend the release of six patients who later committed serious crimes.

The most notorious was Graham Young, who was poisoning people again within four months of his release in 1971. He was then jailed for life for murdering two men and attempting to poison others.

Dr Udwin, who has been a consultant at Broadmoor since 1962.

POET JOINS MUSEUM PROTEST

By Our Planning Reporter

Mr Norman St John-Stevens, MP, the Duke of Norfolk, Lord Weidenfeld and Sir John Benjamin are among the six trustees to a new letter protesting at the proposed demolition and rebuilding of part of the Natural History Museum.

The letter, sent yesterday to the museum's trustees, calls for the abandonment of "this controversial and destructive policy on the grounds of economy, discrimination and good sense."

Approval for the rebuilding was granted by Mr Michael Heseltine, Secretary of State for the Environment, after a public inquiry in 1979.

The letter to the trustees points out that opposition to the rebuilding has been expressed by conservationists, architects, scientists and historians.

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Bulgaria backs Greek plan for atom free zone

From Mario Modiano, Athens, Oct 20

Bulgaria reacted positively today to a proposal for the creation of a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans, put forward by Mr. Andreas Papandreu, the Greek Socialist leader, who takes over as Prime Minister tomorrow.

President Todor Zhivkov, speaking during celebrations to mark the 1,300th anniversary of the founding of the Bulgarian state, offered to host a Balkan summit in Sofia next year to discuss the establishment of a zone free of nuclear weapons in this area.

Although the proposal is not new, Mr. Papandreu announced during his recent electoral campaign that, if elected, he would ask for the immediate removal of all nuclear warheads stored in Greece.

He had told journalists that there were only tactical nuclear arms in Greece, but this would be a symbolic action. "It will be a challenge to our Balkan friends: to do the same," he said. "If we do it, a tremendous success for Greece. It will be a challenge to our Balkan friends: to do the same."

After his spectacular election success, Mr. Papandreu reiterated in a television interview his intention to have removed all nuclear warheads stockpiled in Greece, although he would not press for the immediate closure of the American bases in the country.

President Zhivkov's offer is significant because Bulgaria is the only communist country in

the Balkans that may have stored Soviet nuclear weapons. The idea of a nuclear-free zone had evoked much scepticism in Greece in the past considering that the Balkans would still lie within the range of the Soviet Union's nuclear arsenal.

Decisions on this and other crucial issues for Greece will be taken as soon as Mr. Papandreu forms his new Government, which is to be sworn in tomorrow.

The Socialist leader submitted the list to President Karamanlis, who gave him the mandate to form a new Government, after the victory of his Panhellenic Socialist Movement (Pasok).

Earlier Mr. George Fallis, the outgoing Prime Minister, called on the President to hand in his Government's resignation.

Mr. Papandreu's list of ministers was not disclosed, but in view of his big majority in Parliament, he was not expected to bring in any Communist, in the fashion of the French Socialists.

The first reaction to the election results from what both Pasok and the Communists call the "economic oligarchy" came today when the Association of Greek Industries asked the Government to define promptly and clearly the boundaries of the proposed extension of the public sector, of state interventionism and proposed entrepreneurial experiments.

The first woman heart swop patient dies

Cape Town, Oct 20—The first woman in the world to receive a transplanted heart collapsed and died in Cape Town yesterday. Mrs Dorothy Fischer, aged 50, received the heart in April, 1969.

The operation, the fifth of its kind in South Africa, was carried out in Cape Town's Grote Schuur Hospital by Dr. Christian Barnard, the heart transplant pioneer. The cause of her death was not immediately announced.

Apartheid issue: Mrs Fischer was a remarkable patient for a number of reasons (Pearce Wright writes). She was the first Coloured person in South Africa to receive a new heart from Dr. Barnard. Although the heart of a non-white person was used, thus fitting the apartheid model even in this sphere of life, there was considerable controversy about the procedure at the time.

Mrs Fischer was also one of the earlier transplant recipients. Dr. Barnard made the first operation in December, 1967, and began the transplant vogue. Within a year 64 surgical teams in 22 countries carried out 100 transplants. However, the majority of the patients died within a few months at most.

With hindsight, heart surgeons have a clearer idea of how to select suitable individuals for transplant from their patients and how to monitor the post-operative conditions for early tell-tale signs of trouble.



The scene in Hovenierstraat, Antwerp, after yesterday's car-bomb explosion.

Bomb blasts synagogue in Antwerp

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Oct 20

Two people died and about a hundred others were injured, some critically, when a huge car-bomb exploded outside a synagogue in the diamond-trading quarter of Antwerp at rush hour this morning.

Police described the outrage as "racist". Had the bomb exploded only 25 minutes later, the synagogue would have been packed with Jews attending the service for the Succoth, the last day of the Jewish festive season.

The explosives, packed into a light-coloured delivery van,

were so powerful that the vehicle was flung into the air as high as the third floor of the adjacent building. Shopfronts and windows over a wide area were smashed and even the main Antwerp railway station, a couple of hundred yards away, was damaged.

In July of last year a 15-year-old boy was killed and seven other children were injured when a grenade was flung into a group of Jewish schoolchildren boarding a bus in Antwerp. Two Palestinians were arrested for that attack

so on this occasion the Israeli Embassy in Belgium issued a statement condemning the "blind Palestinian terrorists who strike at Jews wherever they are".

The Palestine Liberation Organization office in Brussels, however, was quick to issue a statement condemning the attack and denying any responsibility in what had happened.

Of the 10,000 or so who work in the diamond trade in Antwerp about 70 per cent are Jewish.

Socialist congress boycott

Spanish party divided within sight of power

From Harry Debelius, Madrid, Oct 20

There will be much harmony when the comrades gather to sing the "Internationale" at the twenty-ninth congress of the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, beginning here tomorrow, but only because those who might strike a sour note have decided not to let their voices be heard.

With the prospects of the Socialists being voted into office looking better than ever, the party, headed by Senator Felipe Gonzalez, has failed to resolve the internal dispute between its left wing, made up mostly of old members and theoretical purists, and its leadership, which has softened the Marxist message to build up a membership big enough to win an election.

Referring to the twenty-eighth congress as "an extraordinarily traumatic experience in the life of the party", Senator Gonzalez said that the decision of the Left Socialist group to boycott this year's gathering was "regrettable, more in view of the quality of its members than their numerical strength".

The party, which got 30 per cent of the vote in the last national elections, now stood a good chance of winning a working majority, "but it all depends on how clumsily the right behaves". He ruled out the possibility of taking part in a popular front. Such a solution was impossible in Spain today.

At the time there is not likely to be any public row such as

there was at the previous congress, when Senator Gonzalez resigned as secretary-general. He left the party without a leader until the delegates reassembled a few months later to re-elect him, with the party rebels reduced to a silent and somewhat humiliated minority.

The hard-core of the left will not be present this time. Those most identified with such positions have all announced that they will not attend the congress.

Under the theme "Roots for Democracy" 799 delegates will consider during the four-day congress a series of propositions designed to reinforce the democratic system.

□ Polling took place today for Galicia's first regional parliament, and in the south Andalusians were taking part in a referendum on a home-rule statute.

By the evening, according to unofficial estimates, 23 per cent of the Galician voters had cast their ballots.

The 71-member parliament in Galicia is expected to be dominated by three Madrid-based parties, the Centre Democratic Union, the Spanish Socialist Workers' Party, and the Popular Alliance.

In Andalusia, there were few crowded polling places. By mid-afternoon, according to government offices of the region, voter responses ranged from 17 per cent in Almeria to 33 per cent in Cordoba.

French approve law to nationalize banks

From Jonathan Fenby, Paris, Oct 20

The French National Assembly has approved legislation to nationalize most of the country's private banks in the latest stage of a marathon debate on the extension of state ownership.

Socialist and Communist deputies broke into applause last night as the main article of the Nationalization Bill dealing with it was adopted by 333 votes to 153.

The measure, affecting 36 private banks, is still dependent on the Nationalization Bill as a whole being passed, but there is no doubt about this in view of the left-wing majority in the Assembly.

The private banks represent only about a quarter of the French banking sector since the big institutions were nationalized by General de Gaulle's Government in 1946, but despite their limited importance they hold a sinister place in Socialist and Communist political mythology, dating back to the undermining of pre-war left-wing governments by "the wall of money".

Apart from being an article

of faith, nationalization of all but the smallest banks is seen by President Mitterrand's administration as an integral part of its programme to boost the French economy. Under state control, so the reasoning goes, the banking system will act more forcefully to help industry to expand and to cut unemployment.

Private bankers predict that exactly the opposite will happen and that the initiative and effectiveness of their firms will be reduced.

When they have to admit defeat in the Assembly, opponents of nationalization are planning to turn to the law courts and to France's Constitutional Council. M. Jean-Maxime Leveque, the head of one of the banks concerned, insisted today that the article approved yesterday was "unconstitutional".

□ France has signed a 4,400m franc (about £440m) contract to supply Iraq with artillery, the first of a number of arms deals being negotiated between Paris and Baghdad, sources in Paris said.

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Astles says he never shot anyone

From Our Correspondent

Nairobi, Oct 20—Mr Bob Astles, the British-born aide to former President Amin who is accused of murder, gave evidence in the witness box in the Uganda High Court in Kampala today. He denied that he killed a fisherman on Lake Victoria in 1977 when he was directing an anti-corruption operation for Amin.

Describing his career in Uganda, which began as a road engineer in 1952 and later brought him into close contact with President Milton Obote (in his first term as President in the 1960s) and with Amin, he said he at no time carried weapons or shot anyone.

At the time of the alleged murder, he was running a hotel-resort complex at Gaba, near Kampala, on the instructions of Amin.

Mr Philip Wilkinson, QC, the defence counsel, told the judge there must be serious doubt about the cause of death of the fisherman, Henry Musisi.

Some prosecution witnesses had suggested that he was killed by Ugandan soldiers who were in the area at the time of his death. Mr Astles was not in the area at the time, he submitted.

Mr George Emesu, the principal state attorney, submitted that there was enough evidence to convict Mr Astles.

Addressing the two law assessors, he will later give his opinion. Mr Justice Manyindo said they must consider the question of the reliability of the witnesses. The hearing was adjourned until tomorrow.

AUSTRALIA BUYS 75 FIGHTERS

From Our Correspondent

Malbourne, Oct 20—The Australian Government has decided to spend about \$A2,500m (£1,562m) on 75 F18 Hornet aircraft for the Royal Australian Air Force.

The Hornets, to be used as front-line tactical fighter aircraft, will be the most expensive purchase ever made by the Defence Department.

This brings to an end a search lasting nearly 10 years for a suitable replacement for the 17-year-old French Mirages.

The Defence Department recommended to the Cabinet the purchase of the McDonnell Douglas F18s instead of the General Dynamics F16 Falcon although the Hornet deal is believed to cost almost \$A200m more.

General Dynamics have fought a fierce public relations war costing thousands of dollars over the past 12 months.

The F18 is a twin-engine attack fighter being developed for the United States Navy. It has no seen squadron service and there is still much controversy in the United States over its eventual cost.

□ Wellington: New Zealand will purchase two used Leander class frigates from Britain for £100m. Mr David Thomson, the Minister of Defence, said tonight (W. P. Reeves writes).

The ships Dido and Bacchante are to replace the frigates Ottago and Taranaki and join the Walkato and the Canterbury ships of a similar class.

The Dido will be released by the Royal Navy in 1983. The Bacchante will sail to New Zealand late next year and undergo a refit.

Queen's informality was key to tour success

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington, Oct 20

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh ended their eight-day visit to New Zealand today when they flew from Auckland bound for Sri Lanka. The visit had been relatively low key with fewer flags and smaller crowds than on the previous five visits.

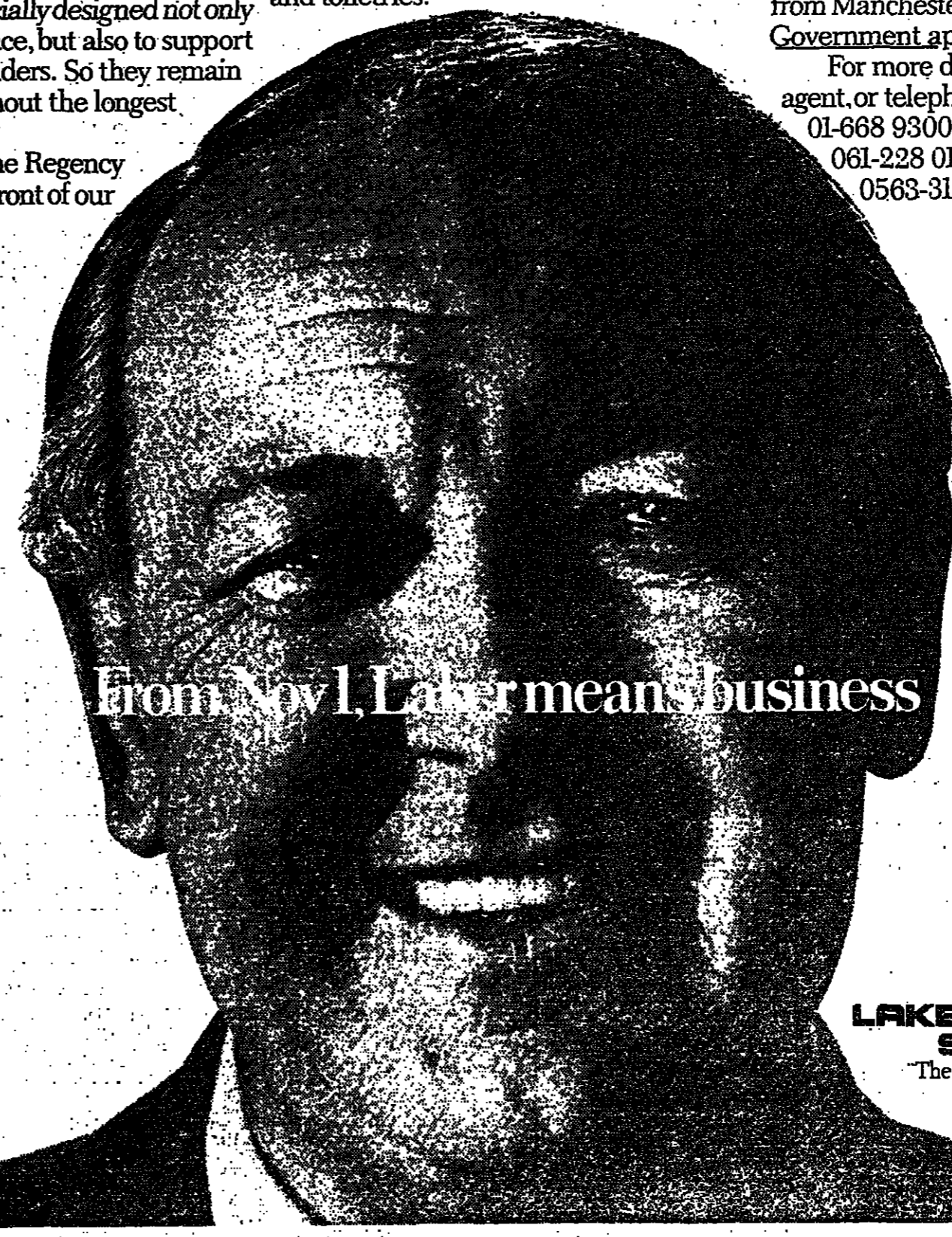
None of this reflects a declining affection for the Crown, merely that Royalty has become more identifiable with ordinary society. The informality of the visit and the Queen's easy grace during walkabouts fashioned an intimacy perhaps missing before.

In her few formal speeches she emphasized the nation's multicultural quality and spoke of

the rewards of a blending of cultures. Anxiety that the visit might have been marred by the divisions created by the Springbok rugby tour proved unfounded.

Mr Robert Muldoon, the Prime Minister, was prominent in the company of the royal couple. However, opponents' fears that the Government would seek political advantage to enhance his party's chances in next month's general election seem without foundation.

The tour was kept scrupulously free of party politics, and in her only reference to the election the Queen, during a state luncheon, emphasized her non-involvement.



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Diplomatic status given to PLO office in Moscow

Moscow, Oct 20.—The Soviet Union today announced that it was upgrading the Moscow office of the Palestine Liberation Organisation to the status of a full diplomatic mission.

President Brezhnev personally informed Mr. Yasser Arafat, the PLO leader, of the move at a meeting in the Kremlin today, Tass reported.

Hitherto, the PLO office has been accredited not with the Foreign Ministry, but with the semi-official Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee.

Mr. Arafat arrived here yesterday, Tass said his meeting with Mr. Brezhnev was warm and friendly. They agreed that the present tension in the Middle East was caused by the United States and Israel.

Mr. Brezhnev said the Soviet Union would continue to give support to the Palestinian cause, and praised the role of the PLO as the "sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people."

Mr. Brezhnev and Mr. Arafat also condemned United States interference in Egypt and American "hostile activities" against Libya.

Mr. Arafat gave his support to the Soviet proposal for a new Middle East peace conference, for which Moscow has been trying to win support in the Arab world.

Diplomats here said the granting of full diplomatic status to the PLO mission appeared to have a largely symbolic value and would not make much difference to contacts between the PLO and the Soviet leadership.

Beirut.—A PLO spokesman said here that the granting of diplomatic status indicated the support by "the friendly Soviet Union for the Palestinian people and their just struggle for self-determination and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state."

PLO sources said that Romania and Bulgaria had already given diplomatic status to the PLO.

Apart from the Arab states, other countries to have done so were Austria, Congo, Cuba, Cyprus, India, Iran, Kenya, Malaysia, Pakistan, Senegal, Sri Lanka, and Tanzania.

New York.—President Mubarak of Egypt, said in an interview published in *The New York Times* today that he had asked the Reagan Administration to speed up the delivery of military equipment.

Mr. Mubarak also said that he would depart from the policy of the late President Sadat and never criticize other Arab states.

"We are not going to answer or react," he said. "I am going to tell the press today not to attack any of our Arab friends here, even Libya."

Mr. Mubarak reiterated that he would continue the peace process with Israel, but he could not predict whether there would be reconciliation with other Arab governments.

Washington.—The State Department today welcomed President Mitterrand's reported offer of French participation in a multi-national force to police Egypt's Sinai peninsula after Israeli withdrawal.

According to the *Washington Post*, Mr. Mitterrand's offer was made in an interview with American journalists in Virginia, where he met President Reagan yesterday. A State Department spokesman, without specifically confirming the offer, told press briefings: "We warmly welcome and deeply appreciate President Mitterrand's positive attitude."—Reuter.

Canadian premiers reject Trudeau talks deadline

From John Best, Ottawa, Oct 20

Eight of Canada's 10 provincial premiers have rejected Mr. Pierre Trudeau's call for a meeting next week to debate the Federal Government's proposals to patriate the constitution.

Instead, at a meeting in Montreal yesterday, the premiers proposed to meet the Prime Minister early next month. They also called for another meeting with Mr. Trudeau in early December to consider how to resolve Canada's rising inflation, rising unemployment, and high interest rates.

An earlier attempt to arrange a meeting on the economy failed when Mr. Trudeau insisted that the press be excluded from the talks.

But it was the constitutional question, which dominated the premiers' meeting in Montreal, which was continuing today, as the provincial leaders waited for the Prime Minister's response to their latest initiative.

Mr. Trudeau had proposed holding a federal-provincial summit next week to try to resolve the deep-rooted differences over his plan to patriate the 1867 British North America Act.

The eight premiers strongly objected to the federal proposals and they demanded Ottawa's right to ask Westminster to attach a charter of rights and a constitutional amending formula before returning the Act to Canada.

Only two premiers—Mr. William Davis of Ontario and Mr. Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick—supported the federal package.

Asked if the British Parliament would be requested at the end of this month to give Canada final control over its constitution—with or without provincial approval—Mr. Trudeau said: "It is fair to say that."

But he stopped short of issuing an ultimatum, adding cautiously: "If there is obviously no agreement or continuity of agreement, we will have to give Canadians what they want, a charter (of rights) in the Canadian constitution."

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US tries to defuse Reagan's remarks

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Oct 20

The United States Administration today tried to defuse the uproar caused by President Reagan's remarks about the possibility of a limited tactical nuclear war in Europe. At the same time it dismissed the senior White House military adviser for making an unauthorized anti-Soviet speech.

In his remarks to a group of regional editors on Friday, which went almost unnoticed here until today as angry reactions were reported from Europe, President Reagan said: "I could see where you could have the exchange of tactical weapons against troops in the field without it bringing either one of the major powers, to pushing the button."

At the White House today President Reagan disavowed the remarks of Major-General Robert Schweitzer, his military national security adviser, that there was a "drift towards war" with the Soviet Union.

Major-General Schweitzer, whose speech yesterday to the Association of the United States Army was a personal assessment and had not been cleared by the Administration, is being moved from his post to the Defence Department.

Asked at a photograph session in the Oval Office if he agreed with Major-General Schweitzer's assessment, President Reagan replied: "No, I think this country could have been on a road that could be described that way. We were unilaterally disarming and had a widening window of vulnerability and a narrowing margin of safety."

He said he thought the United States had reversed that. President Reagan recently announced sweeping proposals to upgrade its strategic nuclear forces on land, sea and air.

The State Department, in explaining the President's remarks as a limited nuclear war, said these were fully consistent with NATO's strategy of deterring any use of force by the Warsaw Pact.

But this came at a particularly sensitive time. The American decision to start production of the neutron warhead, a tactical weapon which could be deployed in Europe, and its decision to develop cruise missiles in Europe, has created strong anti-American feeling, particularly in West Germany.

Talks with the Soviet Union on reducing nuclear weapons "theatre forces" in Europe are to begin in Geneva on November 28.

Major-General Schweitzer said that the Russians have every incentive to press for a war. This could serve to heighten European fears.

A State Department spokesman said today there had been no change in American policy.

American defence experts believe a tactical nuclear war in Europe would involve the deployment of the neutron warhead to stop the superior Soviet tank forces. The United States has not so far had discussions about deploying neutron weapons in Europe.

Major-General Schweitzer's comments were wide-ranging and clearly seemed to inflame the White House. A spokesman said: "We want to knock this one hard."

Salisbury nurses and teachers arrested

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Oct 20

Zimbabwe police today broke up demonstrations by striking teachers and nurses in Salisbury and arrested 750 people under recently granted law-and-order regulations.

Those detained were later released without being charged. But the Government later warned them in a statement that if they continued to strike, they would be charged with contravening the measures introduced last week to reduce an upsurge in political rallies. Police have been instructed to arrest and charge anyone taking part in further demonstrations.

The Government's decision to use regulations, designed to cover political activity, to deal with labour disputes marks a tough new response to a wave of industrial unrest.

The nurses and primary schoolteachers, who were striking over pay, gathered today outside the Ministries of Health and Education. In coordinated operations, police with truncheons moved in on both groups, arresting 500 nurses and 250 teachers and taking them in lorries to police stations.

Tonight it was confirmed that the Salisbury primary teachers' strike had been supported by action in at least two towns, Gwelo and Sinoia, and unconfirmed reports stated that it had spread to other areas.

The nurses' strike was understood to have been limited to Harare hospital in Salisbury, where Red Cross workers have been brought in to maintain services.

More than 1,000 primary teachers demonstrated outside the headquarters of the ministry in central Salisbury for the second successive day, demanding that Mr. Dr. Prigal Muzumbe, the minister, come out personally to answer their grievances on pay scales. These they say, were supposed to have been readjusted last January.

Yesterday Mr. Muzumbe refused to speak to the strikers, saying that their action was not supported by the Zimbabwe Teachers' Association. The minister refused to address the demonstrators today and midway through the morning the police, wielding truncheons, arrested 250 people and took them to Southern police station.

The remaining teachers followed to demonstrate outside whatever the school was. They were joined in the afternoon by secondary school teachers coming off duty.

EEC move for a bigger say in defence policy

From Ian Murray, Brussels, Oct 20

The European Commission is in the process of trying to redefine Europe's relationship with the United States. That emerged from two speeches today, one by Mr. Gaston Thorn, the Commission President, in Brussels, and the other by Mr. Christopher Tugendhat, a senior Vice-President, in Bonn.

Mr. Thorn looked at the "suspicion and mistrust" between Europe and the United States. He said the United States had been seduced by the siren song of neutralism while Europeans think they see a new form of isolationism arising in America.

The Americans appear to be so intent on the East-West conflict that they tend not to see any other aspect of the problem.

His comments came as the West German peace movement rejected the Reagan administration's remark that he could envisage a nuclear tactical weapon war in Europe without the superpowers necessarily starting a world nuclear war.

For Mr. Thorn the solution to the malaise was to ensure that the European pillar of what President Kennedy had called "Two—pillar partnership" of the Atlantic was strengthened.

Europe does not always speak with one voice, he said, that in many cases it is difficult for the United States to seek Europe's opinion because it does not know who to ask.

By pressing forward with its ideas of political co-operation up to the point of covering the release of the Commission believes it will be able to relieve the United States of the pressures it feels from being the dominant member of the Atlantic Alliance.

Mr. Tugendhat went considerably further in again making clear his commitment to the creation of a common European defence policy. There were good reasons why European countries should begin to discuss security issues together.

Arms control had a particular European dimension because of the special situation of the West European countries, he said. The Soviet Union, domestic pressures, such as the West German peace movement, were not shared "on the other side of the Atlantic."

Such a dialogue, he said, was the proper balance between military capability and arms control, the need for more co-operation in defence research and questions concerning the deployment of particular types of weapons, touch all the peoples of Europe very directly.

"War, it was once said, is too important to be left to generals. By the same token, matters relating to the prevention of war are too important to be excluded from the European Community."

Greater European coordination in designing and building defence equipment made economic and military sense.

Taping TV ruled to be illegal

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, Oct 20

The court's opinion, which overruled a 1973 lower court ruling, however, was aimed specifically at companies who manufacture and sell the popular machines.

The original suit was filed five years ago by Universal Studios, and Walt Disney Productions. In November 1976, against the Sony Corporation of America, who make a machine called the Betamax. Four companies that retail the machine were also named.

It is unlikely, however, that as a result of the ruling scores of video police will actually try to prevent people who own the machines from taping the programmes. That task is virtually impossible.

What it will probably mean is that companies making the machines will be forced to pay a royalty and that if this happens the price of the machines, which now sell for between \$800 (£420) and \$1,500 (£830) will be considerably increased.

Police use tear gas on crowd of 5,000 in Polish steel town

Warsaw, Oct 20.—Police using tear gas cleared a crowd of 5,000 in the steel town of Katowice today. Police restored order after the crowd began rioting the police station and a police van was overturned.

Disturbances occurred when police confiscated anti-Soviet and anti-state leaflets being handed out by members of the Solidarity independent union movement, the state television said.

Hard-line communist students in the town occupied party headquarters at a steel mill and took over a radio station to broadcast demands for the resignation of local party officials, Solidarity said.

In Zyrardow, outside Warsaw, 12,000 textile workers, mainly women, continued an eight-day strike in protest at inadequate food supplies.

Solidarity directive: Leaders of Solidarity today told all branches not to take unjustified protest action. The call was in response to an appeal by the Communist Party (Dessa Trevisan writes).

But with almost half the country in a state of strike readiness and with a critical shortage of supplies in the shops, the union leadership reiterated a warning against the declared intention of the Government to seek parliamentary approval to suspend the Solidarity prerogatives.

The Solidarity prerogatives would have the union ready to join efforts to tackle the economic crisis it rejected renegotiation of the three basic agreements signed 14 months ago to which the Government was committed. Any such action was incompatible with those accords.

The union leaders have taken a flexible and moderate stand in the face of fierce attacks on Solidarity extremism by the Central Committee last week.

The Central Committee's appeal against strikes in a nationwide "breakdown" was echoed yesterday by Mr. Stefan Olszowski, a member of the Politburo. He accused the union leaders of totally disregarding Poland's economic difficulties and said "Constitutional prerogatives" would have to be resorted to for the defence of the country's vital interests. The intention was not to limit civil liberties.

The urgency of resolving the crisis is only too evident to Poles. Industrial production continues to slump and is already down 14 per cent on last year. Wages are 30 per cent and inflation is rampant.

Social tension caused by the difficulties of getting essential day-to-day goods continues and general strikes are threatened in several regions unless there is an improvement.

Everything is rationed: meat, butter, flour, alcohol, cigarettes, sugar and soap. Industrial production from furniture to television sets, winter coats to boots are also scarce. For every 1,000 zlotys in someone's pocket there are only 750 zlotys worth of goods in the shop.

No one wants money, and goods are increasingly replacing currency.

The Central Committee has set aside its priorities, including agriculture with enough coal and electricity. But coal production is continuing to fall and the vicious circle goes on. Urgent solutions are needed with winter approaching and with the private farmers' livestock deliveries to the state declining.

'Censorship' fear in bridge world British captain barred for remarks in novel

By David Spanier

The refusal of the executive committee of the World Bridge Federation (WBF) to accept Mr. Terence Reese as non-playing captain of the British team in the world championship, which opened in Port Chester, New York, yesterday, is being construed in bridge circles as a new threat to that of censorship.

It now appears that one of the reasons the credentials committee, chaired by Senator Jaime Guzman, a member of the famous Bolivian family whose fortune was founded on tin, declared Mr. Reese unacceptable was because in a novel he had written, he had portrayed the tournament bridge world in a damaging light.

"It may be that the sexual scenes in *Trick 13* were a little over-explicit," Mr. Jeremy Flint, the co-author, said yesterday, "but surely that has nothing to do with it."

"It was a murder story set in the bridge world of the 1930s. Even if the villains acted like villains, the story did not claim that all bridge officials behaved disreputably or that all players were corrupt. It was a story about bridge players, not about bridge officials. What are we coming to?"

Mr. Flint, who is Bridge Correspondent of *The Times*, added that to object to the book now seemed highly illogical, when he had taken part in it in the last year's Bridge Olympiad without any objection, a year after the book was published.

In fact, other books about international bridge, portraying players in a far more lurid light, he said, by alleging widespread use of drugs, quite apart from cheating and sexual excesses.

Whatever the literary merits of his case, most bridge players would probably impute Mr. Reese's book as a non-playing captain to causes rather closer to the game.

Although by common consent the outstanding bridge player of his generation, Mr. Reese has never courted popularity and has in fact been an outspoken critic of some of the innovations proposed by the WBF, notably the use of screens and alert procedures.

In international bridge, screens are placed across the table to prevent the players from seeing their partner's cards. Mr. Reese believes that screens depersonalize the game.

"Whenever a player makes a conventional bid his partner is supposed to tap the table or wave a blue card marked 'A' in a large circle. The players are always entitled to ask their opponents whether a bid is natural or conventional. Mr. Reese considers the new rule to be more distracting than helpful."

His strictures, in many players' view, have been offensive, but a leg break bowler criticizing the law is allowed.

The whole affair is that the bridge authorities have made clear that the present difference of opinion is nothing more than a difference of opinion. Mr. Reese in 1965, which were subsequently shown to be completely false.

Bermuda Bowl: Great Britain begins its programme in the Bermuda Bowl bridge championship with matches against two of the most strongly fancied teams (Harold Franklin writes from Port Chester, New York). In round three, the British will follow up a match against the United States, which has been given centre court status.

The ladies' team, after a bye in the first round, meets Brazil in the second round and should not be unduly alarmed by a match against the United States, which has been given centre court status.

In the Bermuda Bowl open championship the seven competing countries—Poland, United States, Argentina, Pakistan, Great Britain, Indonesia and Australia—meet each other twice in round robins. Thereafter the first four play semi-final matches with a carry-over in each match from the meeting between the two teams concerned in the round qualifying stage.

The carry-over principle is continued in the 96-board final.

THATCHER VISIT POSTPONED

At the request of the West German Government, Mrs. Margaret Thatcher and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, have postponed until next month their visit to Bonn for talks with Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor (Our Foreign Staff writes).

It is understood that the request was made before the recent heart operation on Herr Schmidt. The talks will now be held on November 17 and 18.

EUROPE RADIO PLAN REVIVED

By Kenneth Gelling

A standing committee of the European Parliament is considering a fresh initiative by a West German member to revive a four-year-old plan for a supranational radio network.

It would involve a service from a central point beaming programmes throughout EEC countries in the different Community languages.

The original £700,000 scheme was killed off in December 1978 due to lack of funds and French reluctance to surrender editorial control.

The Committee on Culture, Education and Information is also expected to reinforce a motion by Mr. Alisdair Hutton, (Conservative, Scotland) calling on the states to reconsider any planned cuts in external broadcasting—a direct reference to Britain—but also to follow up a motion by the West German, Herr Wilhelm Hahn, seeking to revive the Euroservice concept.

Originally the idea came from Mr. Gerard Mansell, former managing director of BBC external broadcasting.

Iran offers Amnesty visit, with strings

Hojaatolislam Hossein Musavi, the Iranian revolutionary prosecutor, said yesterday that the London-based human rights group Amnesty International can visit Iran's prisons where 1,800 people have been executed in the past four months.

But he demanded that Amnesty should first condemn crimes of the radical Mojahedin-Khalq movement and tell the world that Mujahedin members are terrorists. According to Tehran radio, he also urged Amnesty to denounce the "crimes of the United States, Israeli and Iraqi Governments" for their treatment of prisoners. This, he said, would facilitate an Amnesty visit to Iran.

Hojaatolislam Musavi said that Amnesty had failed to visit prisons in the United States, Israel, Iraq, Britain and Egypt. Earlier this month Amnesty appealed to Iran to end mass executions and asked Mr. Muhammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani, the outgoing Prime Minister, to receive a delegation. But two days ago Ayatollah Khomeini, the Islamic leader, accused Amnesty of serving the interests of the superpowers, and said that such a visit to Iran would result only in a condemnation of Iran and Islam.

Amnesty says that more than 3,000 people have been executed in Iran since the 1979 Islamic revolution. But Hojaatolislam Musavi said yesterday there had been fewer executions than assassinations. Courts would pass death sentences as long as political killings continued.

He said the number of executions had already declined with a drop in assassinations and sabotage, and 50 per cent of the population of left-wing groups had repented since former President Bani-Sadr was ousted last June.

Ninety per cent of jailed political activists had repented and hundreds of prisoners who had denounced their political parties had been released at the weekend, he added.

He said the Islamic authorities had set up rehabilitation centres to reform those who had repented and promised that prisoners would be allowed visits from their families at least once a month.

Mr. Bani-Sadr, now living in exile in Paris, attacked Ayatollah Khomeini yesterday for his criticism of Amnesty and said he had resorted to executing dissidents to make up for his incompetence in running the country.

He described his former mentor as a "traitor to Islam and Iran, and used clericalism and the armed forces to voice the protest against the Islamic Government's violent campaign against Leftists."

Mr. Bani-Sadr's statement, which was telephoned to Reuters, also called on fundamentalist Revolutionary Guards who carry out the "executions" to join a mass movement to overthrow Ayatollah Khomeini.

Tehran newspapers reported today that 12 landlords who had let their houses to Mujahedin members had been evicted from their properties. The houses had been handed over to "depraved people" in the southern city of Shiraz.—Reuter.

Leading article, page 7

Public pressure on Thatcher to back aid summit

By David Cross

Mrs Margaret Thatcher, and Lord Carrington, the Foreign Secretary, are due to leave London today for Mexico City to attend the Cancun summit.

In a final reminder that they expected the Government to play an active and constructive role in ensuring a successful outcome of the Cancun summit, 35 politicians, trade unionists and churchmen issued a statement this week calling for a "better, fairer and more productive world system".

Among the measures they advocated were steps to reduce hunger and malnutrition in developing countries, moves to make it easier for poor countries to sell their products in the markets of rich and an increase in the flow of resources to the Third World.

The statement, which was published as a half-page advertisement in *The Times*, was not entirely unexpected since its signatories who included two former prime ministers, as well as the Archbishop of Canterbury and trade union leaders, have made no secret of their deep interest in development aid policy.

Indeed, many of the signa-

tories have been pressing home the importance they attach to the Cancun summit in recent personal encounters with Lord Carrington at the Foreign Office.

Like the developing countries themselves the signatories are deeply suspicious of Mrs Thatcher's apparent lack of enthusiasm for development aid policies.

In recent weeks, the Government has been going out of its way to dispel the notion that it cannot care less about the developing world. In a series of statements Government ministers pointed out that Britain agrees with many of the findings of the so-called Brandt Report, which inspired the Cancun meeting, particularly the recognition that the economic destinies of the developed and developing countries are closely linked.

The latest British line is that the Government believes that this week's summit could well provide an opportunity to set relations between the rich and poor countries "on a constructive course". With no firm decisions on concrete methods of closing the wealth gap expected to emerge from Cancun, Mrs Thatcher and Lord Carrington should be able to commit themselves fairly easily to any general statement of objectives.

Why the rich must reassess the price of poverty

From Melvyn Westlake, Cancun, Oct 20

Overhanging the summit meeting of 22 leaders from rich and poor countries, to be held tomorrow and Friday in Cancun, Mexico, will be the question of money. Many other important questions of food, energy, the restructuring of the world economy, will be tackled at the summit, but in most cases, if real progress is to be made, it will involve an increase in the flow of finance to the Third World.

This does not mean only foreign aid, but private foreign investment and commercial bank loans as well. Last year's report by the Brandt Commission, which first suggested a summit between leaders of the world's rich northern and poor southern nations, called for a large-scale transfer of resources to developing countries as part of a four-point emergency programme for the early 1980s. The other elements in the programme were an international energy strategy, a global food plan, and reforms in the international economic system.

The central plank was, however, a big increase in financial flows to the poor. The report urged doubling of aid from the rich non-communist countries, as well as more financial help from East Europe, Middle East oil exporters and international agencies. The report also called for much higher flows of finance to the Third World from the private sector.

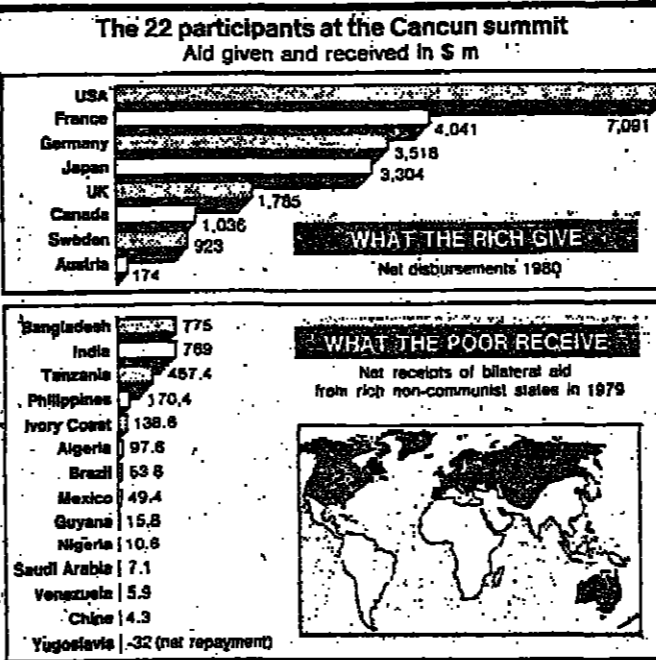
Increases in aid of the order suggested by the Brandt report look most unlikely. Aid budgets are being squeezed in some countries, notably

Britain and the United States. Against this, both France and Japan have promised to double their aid in coming years. The best that can probably be expected is a modest, steady rise.

The eight rich countries represented at the Cancun summit — Britain, the United States, West Germany, Canada, Sweden, Austria and Japan — accounted for more than 80 per cent of the \$25,708m given in aid last year by the rich, non-communist countries, and more than 60 per cent of aid from all sources (including that from East Europe and the Middle East oil-exporting states). The 14 poor countries attending the summit received about a sixth of all aid given.

But aid alone is grossly inadequate to meet the financial needs of the Third World and has become a shrinking part of the total flow of finance to developing countries as they have turned to the banks for the money they need. The result is that aid now accounts for little more than a third of all the money flowing from the rich North to the poor South, and is now not much greater than bank lending and other commercial loans to developing nations.

Both the British and United States governments would be happy to see private capital playing a bigger role in promoting economic development. The problem with this is that private investment and bank lending tend to go to the handful of better-off Third World nations. Even these have had difficulty meeting the interest charges on their bank loans, as interest rates



have soared during the past 18 months.

A number of proposals have been made for increasing the total flow of finance to developing countries. It is generally accepted that aid must increasingly be directed to the poorest nations. At present less than a fifth of all aid from the rich, non-communist nations goes to the 31 most hard-up, developing countries — the poorest of the poor.

But if more aid goes to the poorest, it will mean that the better-off developing countries will have to depend more heavily on private capital. One proposal which would help this process would involve the

rich countries in subsidizing interest rates on commercial loans. The intention is that this should lead to a substantial overall increase in the flow of private capital to the Third World as more developing nations could afford to borrow in this way.

Another suggestion is that the rich countries should provide guarantees that the banks will get their money back if they lend to the poorer, normally less credit-worthy, countries of the South.

Such schemes have run into many objections from the Treasuries in the rich nations. There is rather wider approval for the proposal to

establish an energy investment bank. This would function as an affiliate of the World Bank, and help finance exploration and development of new sources of energy in the Third World. The idea behind this proposal is to attract finance from the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC). Britain now supports this idea, but the United States does not.

Yet, if the summit at Cancun is to produce some practical results for the world's poor, some initiative to increase the flow of finance to the Third World will be needed.

□ Growth strategy: In a report to be published tomorrow, the British Trade Policy Research Centre argues that concessions made by the developed countries to the underdeveloped nations at Cancun are likely to "do little toward alleviating the plight of poor people in the Third World". (Richard Owen writes).

The report, entitled *Strategy for Growth*, was prepared by an international group of businessmen and economists headed by Lord McFadden, the chairman of Rolls-Royce. It argues that the most important benefit the North can bestow on the South is "the maintenance of stable growth and an open trading system".

□ Washington: The Reagan Administration is to send study missions to specially selected developing nations to test out its policy of emphasizing private development over direct aid (Reuters reports). The first mission leaves for Indonesia tomorrow.

High Gas flows could herald US earthquake

From Ivor Davis, Los Angeles, Oct 20

The threat of a big earthquake that Californians live with daily could be just around the corner. Excessive radon gas, considered a precursor to an impending earthquake, has been found in a 500-mile stretch from San Francisco to the Mexican border.

Scientists at the California Institute of Technology, in Pasadena have reported above average flows of the gas in two test wells 60 miles east and 90 miles north of Los Angeles.

But Mr Chi-Yu King, a geological survey geophysicist, in Menlo Park, California, said similar high gases have been measured at 95 testing stations throughout the state. The survey has been following the growth of the gas that is emitted from the decay of uranium in underground rocks.

Mr King said the reason the public had not been told about excessive gas was that there was a disagreement between experts on the significance of the findings.

"The leaks are quite extensive," he said, "but we could not say it means earthquakes. However, there has not been such extensive evidence of radon in California before." He said there had been measurements in China of widespread gas leakage followed by earthquakes.

Letter from Atlantic City

Jackpot eludes faded Vegas of the East

Atlantic City has pretensions, no doubt about that. As you drive on the expressway from New York or Philadelphia, billboards at the roadside praise the splendours of its casinos.

At the Tropicana, they boast we shall feel as though we are in Monte Carlo. Being at the Claridge is just like being in London.

The Tropicana does not open until next month, so it remains to be seen whether it will be crowded with Grace Kelly look-alikes. The Englishness of the Claridge lies in its doormen being dressed as Beefeaters and its security guards as London bobbies, with shiny plastic helmets. Beyond them, it is just another gambling haven, tinkling with fruit machines, indistinguishable from the rest.

This seaside resort 120 miles south of New York has always aspired to be what it is not. In the 1920s, when it was fashionable and prosperous for five months of the year, it wanted to be a centre for conventions, to extend its season.

When it became a convention centre it wanted to be a gambling city, the Las Vegas of the east. Now that has happened, it is not quite sure that it likes it. There remains the feeling that casinos are a bit shameful.

"We see gaming as a catalyst for rebuilding as a resort and convention city," said Mr Gerard Kauper, president of the Convention and Visitors' bureau. "We want to attract quality visitors who do not come just for the casinos."

Two of the words he used are interesting. "Gaming" is posh and not strictly accurate description of what goes on in the casinos; most of the action is at slot machines rather than among tables. But "gambling" is not a socially acceptable word. Under the strict rules by which the state licenses the casinos, they may not mention gambling in their advertisements.

And he spoke of "quality" visitors, a word he uses often. It is what Atlantic City has always wanted but never achieved. The eight casinos that have opened since they were made legal in 1977 have not so far

spread their glamour beyond their vulgar glass and steel walls.

They are bright and busy enough, but the faded resort on which they have been grafted remains drab and blighted. Day rippers from New York play the machines in their raincoats. Though constantly crowded, the casinos claim not to be making big profits, nowhere near the level of those in Nevada, the only other American state that permits them.

This is because the rules that the state established to overcome fears of rampant crime and corruption are expensive to enforce. The casinos have to employ, for instance, a fixed number of staff; the security squad at just one of them is bigger than the city's entire police department.

Partly for that reason, and partly because of high interest rates, most of the 29 hotels and casinos proposed in 1978 have not been built. The Tropicana will bring the total to nine. Work on three others has been suspended and the other sites are still vacant lots.

The city now has the second highest crime level per head of population in the United States, exceeded only by Miami. Fiddles have been invented here. The

On the bright side, convention business is picking up after a calamitous drop in the late 1970s, and the casinos have certainly improved the quality of the entertainments from which visitors can choose.

While the amusements on the three piers are either tatty or closed, something of the old resort remains. At Margate, a few miles south, an old hotel built in the shape of an elephant has been restored.

It only had 10 rooms and must have seemed almost as eccentric in the late nineteenth century, when it was built, as it does today. But then it is scarcely more bizarre than the construction of shiny pavilions full of machines where thousands stand for hours dropping in coins, staring at badly-drawn pictures of fruit, spinning around.

Michael Leapman

SAUSAGE IN PLACE OF KING

Mohammed, Morocco, Oct 20.—Joseph Guillon, a French ship's engineer, was jailed for years here today and fined about £50 for hanging a sausage on a hook that normally held a portrait of King Hassan.

M Guillon's lawyer said he would appeal against the sentence, imposed of insulting the Moroccan king and the "dignity and feelings of Moroccans".

The court heard that M Guillon said the sausage was "more useful than a picture of the king", and he disregarded protests from Moroccan crew members of the tanker Al Ghassani, where he hooked the offending item onto a bulkhead.

The tanker's master, also a Frenchman, was said to have habitually removed the king's portrait in bad weather.

M Guillon, aged 45, a father of two from Quimperle in north-west France, was second engineer on the Ghassani. He had been in custody since August 20.—AFP.

Civilian to administer West Bank

Tel Aviv, Oct 20.—Mr Ariel Sharon, the Israeli Defence Minister, today appointed a civilian to administer the occupied West Bank from the end of the month.

Professor Menachem Milson is to head a civilian administration that will take over such functions as health services, education and agriculture, while the military will concentrate on security.

Palestinian Arabs in the West Bank are to fill some of the senior positions in the new administration, as the first stage of an autonomy plan for the West Bank and Gaza Strip. No Palestinians have yet been appointed.

Officially, Professor Milson will be acting under the authority of the military government in the West Bank, but he is expected to take his orders directly from Mr Sharon.

Professor Milson, who is 48, has served as adviser on Arab affairs to the military government in the West Bank.—AP.

Whitehall's new idea for dealing with local questions.

There's some very worrying legislation about to creep in and out of Parliament.

The idea is to take away your Local Authority's power to levy rates.

If you hate rates (and who doesn't), you could be fooled into believing it's good news. That's what Whitehall is relying on.

But think. Without money your local council is without power. And it can't make decisions.

Look at it this way.

If you want a dark lane made safer with

streetlamps, you'll have to ask Whitehall.

If you petition for more swings in the park, or for a youth centre, you'll have to go to Whitehall.

And because Whitehall is so huge, you won't know who to talk to.

If you come to us with your problems, our hands will be tied.

We'll have come up against this innocent looking law. But like all laws, no-one can argue against it.

It won't matter if your local councillor

agrees the roads are bad. He lives there too.

Or that there aren't enough books at the neighbourhood school, even though his own children go there.

It won't matter if there's no room at the old people's home for our senior citizens.

And there'll be no point in appealing to us. No point in attending council meetings.

As things are, our doors are open.

Whitehall's will stay closed.

In silencing us, they

will have silenced you too.

KEEP IT LOCAL

THIS ADVERTISEMENT HAS BEEN SPONSORED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF METROPOLITAN AUTHORITIES, REPRESENTING A LARGE NUMBER OF ENGLISH LOCAL AUTHORITIES. IN THE BELIEF THAT YOU SHOULD BE KEPT INFORMED.

PARLIAMENT (Continued)

Archbishop maintains criticism of British Nationality Bill

LORDS

For the first time there was a Bill which gave British citizenship to those who were born in this country and who must surely be good for race relations. Lord Runcie, Under Secretary of State, Home Office, said when he moved that the British Nationality Bill should now pass.

The Bill, he said, marked a long overdue reform of the nationality law. He wanted to emphasise the Government's total commitment to the maintenance of the existing strong links with British dependencies. Nothing in the Bill in any way weakened the United Kingdom's constitutional relationship with them or the right or commitment to represent their interests internationally.

He expressed surprise that Lord Elwyn-Jones had tabled an Opposition amendment which referred to "injustice", "stalemate", "uncertainty", and "racial tension".

The Bill was an endeavour to modernise the nationality law, an endeavour which the Labour Party had previously recognised as being necessary and overdue. Lord Elwyn-Jones moved an amendment which said the Bill would result in injustice, greatly increase the number of stateless men, women and children, create new uncertainties and feelings of insecurity and exacerbate racial tensions.

He said Labour peers believed that much as it had been improved during its passage through Parliament, the Bill as it now stood was still so objectionable as to merit special condemnation.

The Bill raised seriously unbalanced. The Government had not yielded an inch on the principle of jus soli, the acquisition of British citizenship by the simple fact of being born in Britain. It should have been retained. It was simple, clear and familiar and avoided statelessness on British soil. It had been replaced by a complicated mixture of birth, descent and immigration status.

For the first time in British history, a number of children born in the United Kingdom would be stateless, running contrary to national tradition.

Lord Archbishop, for the Liberals, said the changes made to the Bill did not alter the fundamental objections to it. The concessions were mainly designed to placate white middle-class opinion.

The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Rt Rev Robert Runcie, said the main criticism of the Bill which he and others made in the second reading still stood. It was a complicated and bad Bill then and it was a bad Bill now.

The changes made had not altered the basic principles on which it was based, nor removed the objections which had been put forward by those who felt they must voice the fears, particularly of ethnic minorities, to whom the Bill had been put forward.

I want to place on record (he said) our deep concern that on so fundamental a matter as nationality, we seem about to pass

into law a measure which in the view of the leaders of all our churches—and we are increasingly working together in these matters—is questionable when judged by moral principles and the effects of which will be to sow doubts in an area where reassurance is desperately needed.

History would judge that this was a great opportunity missed and this was a Bill of which future generations would not be proud.

The Bill could have been a better Bill if some amendments narrowly lost in certain cases had been passed, I regret the loss (he said) of the amendment which would have been a much simpler Bill if that fundamental change had been accepted.

As to the future, the churches remained profoundly unhappy about the Bill. I wish to register this (he said) by voting for the amendment in Lord Elwyn-Jones's name.

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Plastic bullets effective in crowd control

TERRORISM

The plastic bullet was three times more deadly than the previously used rubber bullet, Lord Brockway (Lab) claimed during a question to the Earl of Gowrie, Minister of State for Northern Ireland, on the use of plastic bullets by the security forces in Northern Ireland and Great Britain.

Lord Brockway: The plastic bullet was introduced because it was considered to be more effective in crowd control than the rubber bullet.

I went to the forensic laboratory in Belfast to examine the plastic bullet, itself an unpleasant weapon. It has been effective in reducing violence, and I hope that the need for its use will be curtailed.

Lord Brockway: Does not the use of this weapon and other lethal weapons by the police in the words of the Home Office Working Committee, indicate "a significant departure from the traditional police image" and destroy its civilian unarmed status?

Lord Brockway: Everyone regrets that the police should have to use any weapons on any occasion. My judgment is that the presence and knowledge about this weapon has reduced the need for the police to use other kinds of arms which could be more lethal.

figure. Would he detail the adjustment, multipliers and other factors which the Government used to arrive at that figure?

And is he in agreement with the Cabinet minister who said in July that the Government was not aware of the statistical accuracy of its own benefit fraud figures?

Mr Rossi: I do not accept that. The figure is as accurate as possible.

In other exchanges, Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab) asked: Would the minister agree that the present take-up of benefits is abysmal?

Mr Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security (Walsley, C): On all the benefits which are National Insurance benefits, there is no problem of take-up, but those for which people separately apply, such as supplementary benefit, more than three quarters were claimed. Many of the unclaimed amounts were very small.

On the others, there has been an increase of take-up on every single one, and as a result, more and more people are entitled to take it up.

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kempston, C): There are 600,000 pensioners who do not claim supplementary benefit. Would it not be possible to issue a separate leaflet which could be attached to new National Insurance benefit books that go out in the next twelve months?

Mrs Chalker: We have been discussing this because there has been a major effort to simplify all leaflets and all forms. All pensioners, widows and retired pensioners are entitled to claim and all pension books contain a claim form.

Mr Norman Buchan, chief Opposition spokesman on social services (West Kenton, Lab): I understand the Cabinet are discussing a monstrous proposal to curb the take-up level of benefits including sickness and unemployment. Can she say what the Secretary of State (Mr Fowler) is doing to prevent this happening and if not, will he resign?

Mr Rossi: That is our policy. Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab): The answer given is a fraudulent

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Mr Rossi: That is our policy. Mr Jeffrey Rooker, an Opposition spokesman on social security (Birmingham, Perry Barr, Lab): The answer given is a fraudulent

figure. Would he detail the adjustment, multipliers and other factors which the Government used to arrive at that figure?

And is he in agreement with the Cabinet minister who said in July that the Government was not aware of the statistical accuracy of its own benefit fraud figures?

Mr Rossi: I do not accept that. The figure is as accurate as possible.

In other exchanges, Mr Jack Ashley (Stoke-on-Trent, South, Lab) asked: Would the minister agree that the present take-up of benefits is abysmal?

Mr Lynda Chalker, Under Secretary of State for Health and Social Security (Walsley, C): On all the benefits which are National Insurance benefits, there is no problem of take-up, but those for which people separately apply, such as supplementary benefit, more than three quarters were claimed. Many of the unclaimed amounts were very small.

On the others, there has been an increase of take-up on every single one, and as a result, more and more people are entitled to take it up.

Mr Andrew Bowden (Brighton, Kempston, C): There are 600,000 pensioners who do not claim supplementary benefit. Would it not be possible to issue a separate leaflet which could be attached to new National Insurance benefit books that go out in the next twelve months?

Mrs Chalker: We have been discussing this because there has been a major effort to simplify all leaflets and all forms. All pensioners, widows and retired pensioners are entitled to claim and all pension books contain a claim form.

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Disclosure provisions unchanged

COMPANIES BILL

Opposition attempts to restrict the number of companies which would be given exemption from having to provide information about their accounts was defeated by 189 votes to 143—Government majority, 47, when the Companies Bill resumed its report stage.

Mr Clinton Davis, an Opposition spokesman on trade (Hackney Central, Lab) said the Government had got it wrong in trying to define the size of small companies. The Government said that to come within such a definition a company must not have an annual turnover of more than £1,400,000, a balance sheet total of less than £700,000 and should employ less than 50.

The turnover, in the higher echelons of the Government's figure was hardly a small company, and the balance sheet figure was not substantial, while employers of less than ten seemed more appropriate to the term small company.

The Opposition amendment suggested £250,000 for the annual turnover and £125,000 for the balance sheet, with the number of employees reduced to ten.

While he believed that really would make him the shortest minister, but certainly the most honourable.

Mrs Chalker: It is high time he gave the minister at least a chance.

Impact of joblessness on health

There was no evidence of any relationship between unemployment and the death rate, Dr Gerard Vaughan, Minister for Health, said. A pilot study on unemployment and health found there was no clear relationship between the two, he added.

Dr Vaughan (Reading, South, C), answering a group of questions from Labour MPs, said that the report on unemployment and health in families by Dr Leonard Fagin was an excellent pilot case study which showed yet again how

men's policy. When is the Government going to find some remedies?

Dr Vaughan: He has clearly not read the Fagin report. What comes out of the report is the different sorts of impact which unemployment has on different families.

For example, in families where there has been a long history of ill-health there may be some improvement in health. In some of the wives of families, there has been severe stress.

The report says the relationship between health and unemployment is not clear and no generalisations can be taken from it.

Mr John Evans (Newport, Lab): The report says the relationship between health and unemployment is not clear and no generalisations can be taken from it.

Mr Vaughan: Yes, I have a clear and deep sympathy for these people. It is every person's right to have the opportunity to work and to work in the kind of job which is best suited to them. I am surprised at the line of the questions from Labour MPs. I would have thought they would have drawn attention to the fact that the unemployment figures are actually down today by some 12,000. (Labour interruptions.)

Mr Paul Dean (North Somerset, C): While there are no easy political answers to the complex human problems of unemployment and health, will be undertaken to give special consideration to the financial needs of the long-term unemployed with dependent children, in view of the evidence that they are being hit far harder by the necessary economies in the social security budget?

Dr Vaughan: Yes, I am glad to assure him that these supplementary benefits have been fully maintained, and for the first time we are expanding the long-term supplementary benefit for older people who are unemployed.

Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, an Opposition spokesman on the

right the Government was to be concerned about the cutting of inflation and unemployment. But it was a pilot study of only 22 families and MPs would want to hear that in mind when reading it.

Mr Joseph Dean (Leeds, West, Lab): Whatever the size of the inquiry, the one thing which comes across clearly is that with increased unemployment there will be an increasing number of people who are ill because of the Govern-

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Isle of Man and Channel isles defended

TAX AVOIDANCE

A Labour MP was refused leave by 151 votes to 134 to introduce a Bill which he said was aimed at curbing tax avoidance by United Kingdom companies through the Channel Islands and Isle of Man.

Mr George Foulkes (South Ayrshire, Lab) said the islands provided an easily accessible English bolt hole for every kind of avoidance of United Kingdom tax.

Government on the islands actively encouraged the use of the islands for tax avoidance.

So-called stability on the islands was provided by a feudal electoral system which stifled any potential opposition to the islands.

Mr Albert McQuarrie (East Aberdeenshire, C) opposing the Bill, said it represented an intrusion on the rights which had been invested in the governments of the islands. There already appeared to be adequate legislation to cater for companies transferring to these alleged tax havens.

The Bill was a publicity stunt.

health service (Crewe, Lab): If the Government is determined to use unemployment as a method of disciplining the workforce, why does he not use the basis of the cohort study, which not only looks at the health of the workforce but also at the health of the unemployed?

Dr Vaughan: There is a 30 per cent higher death rate, apart from all the other psychiatric problems.

Dr Vaughan: There is, at the moment no evidence of a relationship between unemployment and the death rate. The Queen Mary College study is to look at this aspect and we support it. If you look at the figures between 1962 and 1975 there is no correlation which follows on from unemployment.

The umbrella figures apply only to America, but they are being looked at in this country.

If it is going to take to prove to him the damage this Government is doing to ordinary people?

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The Times-Profile: The Manpower Services Commission

Plenty of money to spend — but who is minding the child-minders?

By David Walker and Peter Hennessy

Today, like every other weekday morning, 30,000 of this country's 16 and 17-year-olds will report at colleges, factories, offices and workshops — subjects one and all of Special Programmes. "Special" was the bureaucrats' way four years ago of implying that schemes for jobless youths were meant to be temporary; few are special any longer. With unemployment among school-leavers in some districts running permanently at between a third and a half they will never be special again.

The two score of young trainees who are now clocking-in at the disused St Peter's teachers' college in Salford in Birmingham are probably typical. St Peter's is like a thousand other places in the industrial wastelands of the Black Country, Teesside or Lancashire where Special Programmes are making work. The volunteers for this new deal punch time cards because that is good practice, good industrial discipline for the real jobs that might one day come their way.

Some come straight from school, early earmarked by Birmingham City's careers staff as destined for the dole. Others have been unemployed, referred by Job-centres, some are back from temporary placements as an extra pair of hands for some local employer. Special Programmes' young pensioners get £23.50 a week subsistence. The dole pays £17. Staying on at school pays nothing. Special Programmes does not lack for clients, and that explains why Salford 16-year-olds are on the receiving end of one of the most spectacular examples of peacetime government growth since Lloyd George put up the first scaffolding of the Welfare State 70 years ago.

Although Salford's youth could not give a fig for the nuances of administration, Special Programmes is the classic creature of the modern corporate state, the Manpower Services Commission. Hived off, not directly accountable to Parliament, spendthrift, the MSC has grown fat on recession and now puts on weight even under the Thatcher retrenchment.

Holding company for workless

Its officials, self-confident open outgoings, have identified Whitehall's winning game and played it well: demand-led growth, the principle that staff and budgets follow the same upwards curve as national unemployment. The reward, a one knowledgeable cynic put it, has been to spread the privilege of having a drinks cupboard in the office further than ever down the line.

Yet as long as politicians can about Salford's jobless 16-year-olds, Special Programmes there must be. Being a national youth-minder, as the MSC has become, is an expensive business. The MSC's £900 million budget employs the Salford trainees and their instructors, albeit temporarily, and if they do not emerge from their six or twelve months' wood and metal-working courses with new skills, they might at least be more employable. The MSC keeps them off the streets. And this summer that might just have been the MSC's Special Programmes' most telling defence.

Conceived by Mr Heath's Tory government in that era of innocence before the spectres of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and prolonged slump began to haunt the Cabinet room, the prototype MSC was meant to be a holding company to look after the employment and training services of the Department of Employment. A fashionable administrative theory said these services should be hived off, removed from the direct supervision of the Secretary of State for Employment. Equally fashionable theory remembered this was after Mr Heath's U-turn — dictated that the MSC have a "tripartite" set up. The ten commissioners, to whom in theory the MSC's 24,500 staff are answerable, represent the Confederation of British Industry, the Trades Union Congress and a clutch of peripheral interests in education and the voluntary services. The third party, the government, pays the bills.

In seven and a half years since its establishment in 1974 the MSC has changed. No one planned the present MSC, former Employment Secretary Mr James Prior has told MPs it was "bad luck" that unemployment swallowed up the original idea. Under the Callaghan administration the MSC became the conduit for socialist blood money poured in almost indiscriminately because the MSC was the only administrative vehicle around that might DO SOMETHING about joblessness.

So the MSC grew a third arm in addition to its original functions of improving labour



The Youth Opportunities Programme provides help backstage at the Croydon Warehouse Theatre.

skills (by means of its costly and not terribly efficient finding people jobs through labour exchanges rechristened Job centres. The third arm was Special Programmes, born in 1978. In the years since Special Programmes have taken on 1,200 administrative staff and increased spending by £300 million a year. Placements on special programmes grew from 60,000 in the first year of operation to around 600,000 planned for the current year.

MSC's budget has grown from just under £400 million (in late 1979 prices) in 1975-76 to about £700 million on the same price base this year. Some portion of this went on selling the MSC's image: marketing, public relations and corporate identification have always been big at Selkirk House, the organization's High Holborn headquarters. MSC newsmen entered the vocabulary of teachers and employers; few 16-year-olds leave school nowadays without some familiarity with Yop, Weep and Wics — MSC acronyms for the youth opportunities programme, work experience on government premises and work introduction courses.

Locally, the MSC established a network of regional offices dispensing an impressive amount of patronage in the form of committee appointments. The Birmingham office of Special Programmes, with 75 staff, runs a number of West Midlands committees recruiting high and low — from the Bishop of Worcester to the regional officer of the National Union of Public Employees. The committees are meant to lubricate local bargains between colleges, councillors, chambers of commerce and shop stewards so schemes for the young jobless can get started. Success is measured in places. The Birmingham Special Programmes office mounted 6,500 places in 1979-80; 23,000 this year.

Accentuate the positive

So far MSC style corporatism has got results — measured in training places, schemes mounted, money spent and make-work for the youth of Salford. Something has happened, and that is the MSC's achievement, says Mr Geoffrey Holland, director of the commission. "The problem with Britain is that there are so many people around who can stop things happening. To have something — meaning the MSC — that can help things to happen is very valuable."

Yet the MSC has an impressive array of critics, not all convinced by the Rooseveltian enthusiasm of Mr Holland. Some critics, for example in the local teaching service or the Department of Education, are merely jealous of the MSC's crock of gold. Had education in Britain not been riven by its local-central split and the schools' tatty recognition of their obligations to pupils' job prospects then education might have got the money that the MSC now has. There was a time in 1977-78 when Mrs Shirley Williams was Secretary for Education when the unemployment blood money might have found its way directly to the schools and further education colleges.

As it is, the MSC buys courses from local colleges and the MSC pays the salaries of an uncounted number of trainers and counsellors who are nominally on the books of local councils. The public

financing of further education has therefore become worryingly complex; provision for the 16-19-year-olds population a maze. Training at St Peter's, Salford, can cost the MSC some £2,000 per year per place — not too far short of the cost of tuition in a university.

How to measure the effectiveness of such training or other youth placements? Hard evidence is rare and difficult to assess in a slump; anecdotal evidence isn't good. Mr Michael Heseltine, Environment Secretary, got an earful of trainees' complaints on his Merseyside walkabout — "I...ing useless" was what he heard. His solution is to put more trainees to work on "useful" projects, run by the very local authorities which are the target of the Government's campaign to reduce public sector employment.

But serious questions remain about the value of local special programmes. The structure of the MSC excites other, bigger worries. Sir Leo Plafsky, commissioned by Mrs Thatcher to review the growth of secondary bureaucracy (quangos as its symptoms are known), noted that until 1979 the MSC had employed such a priority in public spending allocations that it had been saved from making hard choices. He wondered if the dual responsibility for employment of the MSC and the Department of Employment would always make the ordering of priorities difficult.

Certainly the MSC's connections with Whitehall and Parliament are complex, hinging in part on discussion by MPs of the MSC's corporate status. More recently and reluctantly vouchsafed to them, and in part on a ministerial sub-group of the Cabinet economic strategy committee which together with an interdepartmental manpower group chaired by Mr Donald Derr, a deputy secretary in the Department

of Employment, oversees the MSC's doings. The tripartite organization of the commission supposedly enlists the cooperation of trade unions and employers in the various schemes. It also stops certain fundamental issues being properly aired — because they might offend one of these social partners. Wage rates for young workers is one taboo; trade unions have been reluctant to have the MSC make much progress in overhauling Britain's apprenticeship system and complacent employers have been happy to go along.

Not surprisingly, the MSC's top officials are its most assiduous apologists. Mr John Cassels, director until the end of September, believes it to be the handmaiden of a great transformation of Britain's labour force into a body of workers poised to take advantage of the new technologies now in prospect. In this view, the MSC's Special Programmes are a timely dislocation. Look instead, he admonishes, at the MSC's new training plan, a long term plan "of immense importance to the economic life of the country and to its social cohesion." (Working for the MSC has not hurt Mr Cassels' civil service career. He has moved to become a second permanent secretary with Sir Derek Rayner's Cabinet Office waste unit.)

100,000 flowers bloom

But in Mr Geoffrey Holland, the MSC's newly appointed director, there is an unabashed evangelist for Special Programmes. He has to be operated outside the normal constraints of a central government department's tidy "rule-book," he says. Schemes for the young would have to be created locally and a host of diverging interests reconciled. This needs, according to the Hol-



Geoffrey Holland, MSC director of Special Programmes, with Karl Bailey, aged 16, the 500,000th entrant to the Youth Opportunities programme.

Solidarity: what a pity it does not include the women of Poland

A visit to Poland at the moment is for anyone a heady experience. For a woman the experience can also be strangely disorienting. On the one hand there is still an overwhelming barrage of courtesy, particularly for a woman with a small child. In any crowded Warsaw tram there would be intense competition to give me a seat; in interminable queues for boarding aeroplanes I was whisked to the front and escorted on board while armed soldiers kept back the childless rabble. The effect of all this was slightly amusing, very charming and most seductive.

But this is not the only aspect of women's life in Poland. In a Communist state despite the strong survival of male deference, women can and do work as road-builders, doctors and crane drivers. So it would seem that Polish women enjoy the best of all possible worlds: old-fashioned protective courtesy in the best traditions of Catholicism combined with economic and political equality engendered by Communism. However, this apparently utopian picture cracks when one examines the power structures, even within an organization that stands for forward-looking idealism and democracy: Solidarity.

Solidarity's membership has grown enormously in the past year and is now thought to have stabilized at about 10 million, or one in three of the population. Having developed from an earlier underground movement, its hierarchy has now been established: below the president are two vice-presidents, then a praesidium of about 10 and then a council of 100. Every one of these, from president to lowest council member, is male.

There was once a woman on the council, and her story is illuminating. Anna Walentynowicz was a welder in the Gdansk shipyards. Besides being a widow and a good Catholic, she was active with Lech Walesa in the resistance movements which preceded the setting up of Solidarity. She was the focus for strike action when the authorities tried to dismiss her for her political activities. Then, as a member of the Solidarity council, she was a figure of great popular appeal, as has been throughout the land as Walesa himself.

Ransomed for union support

Special Programmes are new, they need improvement, says Mr Holland. The problem that Roosevelt found, and we have found is that you can have 100,000 flowers but you are not sure which are the most sweet-smelling. We have to move towards something like Her Majesty's Inspectorate of schools — to review the MSC's choice of projects and schemes.

Does the MSC's closeness to the organized labour movement mean some public manpower policies are being ransomed for union support? MSC officials believe union representation has been beneficial, has bought off the hostility of some unions to giving employers access to cheap and youthful labour. Mr Cassels says, tripartism has allowed continuity in MSC's programmes despite changes in political fashion. (The TUC is a good ally when Labour is in; the CBI when the Tories come back.)

On the MSC's structure: yes, Mr Holland says, "we have allowed bureaucratization and red tape to close in. We have got to cut it out again." That may not be easy. As the MSC approaches its second decade, it faces the bureaucratic ossification that often encumbers even vigorous new bodies in their middle years. Once Special Programmes are recognized as permanent fixtures, what justification will there be for a free-floating hived-off administration (especially when the Department of Employment retains, oddly, various job-creating responsibilities)?

But bringing the MSC back into the bosom of Whitehall would mean the government recognizing that long-term unemployment and unprecedentedly high levels of joblessness among tender-aged youth are here to stay. Defining them, administratively, as the business of a hived-off whipping boy — is a nice let-out for politicians.

Mr Norman Tebbit, successor to Mr Prior as Secretary for Employment, is at this moment reviewing the MSC. He is likely to start out with a prejudice against Special Programmes and any such expensive child-minding operation. Mr Geoffrey Holland is a plausible if interested witness for the defence.

But for the MSC this summer's civil disorders would have been worse. "I'm quite certain of that," says Mr Holland. "We have now had one million young unemployed in the programme. They would have had nothing as an alternative to the dole. If it had not been for us, we should have had even more than we have had: a lot of alienated, under-developed young people lost in a modern world."



Rachel Cullen

Yet the union convened a "workers Court" in an attempt to remove her from its council. The grounds were that she was politically naive and too radical — this despite her long political apprenticeship in the pre-Solidarity underground free union. The court, however, found in her favour and so she could not be ejected, but later she resigned from the council. In the Gdansk Solidarity strike last December she was to be found still working for her union, though now in the kitchens.

The story is the same in other sections of Solidarity: women who had been active in the underground movements began with a voice in the new union, but almost all have now lost their positions of power. Anna Piekowicz was on the Gdansk regional council for the shipyard, but is so

no longer. A woman used to be the director of a section of Solidarity for the Warsaw division; she has been ousted. Indeed, in the capital there is now only one division headed by a woman; the intervention section, which follows up cases of individual complaint against the state. She, of course, may stay entrenched in her position, but the short history of women in Solidarity makes this at least doubtful.

Meanwhile many women are taking an age-old alternative route to power through motherhood, and there are also economic reasons for the present population explosion. Jobs done by women are generally ill-paid and boring, and the Government, in an attempt to paper over the undoubted unemployment problem, has recently offered an extension in paid maternity leave from one year to three. There is some doubt among more cynical women that this promise will be kept, but clearly a large number have jumped at the opportunity to get out of their dreary jobs.

Of course, it would be patronizing and futile to suggest that Solidarity ought to have found more effective ways of channelling women's discontent, even though it would be good to see the people of Poland represented equally in the decision-making heart of the country's most important and vital organization. For, though desperately short of most things, Poland is rich in the enthusiasm, intelligence and political passion of its people. It is doubly sad then that this vital resource is being wasted.



(Only two women among Polish workers at Fiat)

Breast-feeding and pregnancy: some truth in the old wives' tale

Only in the present century have women in western countries acquired the freedom to become sexually active while rejecting a life pattern based on repeated pregnancies. Yet while the sociological consequences of this new freedom have been examined in the minutest detail, the hormonal effects have come under less scrutiny.

Unravelling the complex links between hormones, fertility, pregnancy, and lactation is now becoming being given high priority. These relationships may hold the keys to two of the most pressing problems facing medical science: providing satisfactory contraception for women in the Third World and finding some way of reducing the frequency of breast cancer in women of all cultures.

In western countries breast feeding is encouraged as safer and healthier for the baby, as well as having an important element in forming psychological bonding between mother and infant. Little mention is made of its contraceptive effects — indeed the belief that breastfeeding cannot get pregnant is so widespread that while you are still feeding" is often dismissed as an old wives' tale.

In Africa, Asia, and South America, however, breast feeding is the most important factor in spacing pregnancies. In societies where contraception is still not readily available, so how does breast feeding prevent pregnancy, and how reliable is it?

In primitive communities such as the Kung hunters in the Kalahari desert the average interval between births may be as long as four years: this spacing seems to be entirely due to the contraceptive effect of breast feeding. As soon as the Kung leave their nomadic way of life and settle in towns and villages, the birth interval drops. Few European women seem able to go much over a year before another pregnancy (assuming no other form of birth control) and the interval may be as short as four to six months.

The explanation for this wide variation lies in the mechanism by which breast feeding protects against pregnancy. Milk formation by the breasts is controlled by a hormone, prolactin, secreted by the pituitary gland at the base of the brain. So long as the blood contains high levels of prolactin the pituitary does not secrete the trigger hormones that lead to ovulation, menstruation, and the possibility of pregnancy.

Research in Edinburgh has shown that the contraceptive effect of breast-feeding persists for as long as the baby takes only breast milk. As soon as the mother introduces supplementary feeds — either dried milk or solids — the stimulus to prolactin secretion declines and ovulation becomes more likely. Only while she feeds exclusively with breast milk and allows her baby to suckle as often as he wants can a mother hope to postpone her return to fertility.

Is this further scientific ammunition for the pressure groups campaigning against the promotion of dried milks? Should not women in Africa and Asia be taught more about the contraceptive effect of prolonged breast-feeding?

Sadly, the issue is more complex than that. Research in Guatemala has shown that peasant women are commonly so poorly nourished that their breast milk can provide only half the protein and energy required by a baby of three months. If a mother relies on breast milk alone her baby's growth will be slow and he will become weak and malnourished. If she supplements her breast milk (with all the attendant risks of gastroenteritis from polluted water and dirty feeding bottles) she is likely to become pregnant again.

The implications of these research findings are plain enough. The miserable cycle of frequent births and high infant mortality will persist in developing countries so long as women are starving. Only by ensuring that the mothers' nutrition is adequate can governments hope to lower the birth rate and the infant mortality rate.

A second, thought-provoking implication for research groups is that human lactation might be the most "normal" model for contraception — at least for the spacing of births.

At present, however, the focus of research interest in studies of sex hormones in Western communities is the link between breast cancer

and the postponement of first pregnancy. Despite improvements in treatment, breast cancer remains a major cause of illness and death in middle age: one woman in every 17 will develop breast cancer at some time in her life. For many years childbearing has been known to protect against breast cancer: the disease is most common in women who have never been pregnant. More recently the age at which a woman first becomes pregnant has been found to be the determining factor. The longer a woman delays her first pregnancy the greater her risk of developing breast cancer later in life. Whether the woman breast feeds seems to have no effect and nor does the number of pregnancies increase the protective effect of the first.

What seems to happen is that pregnancy causes permanent changes in the breast; after pregnancy the cells that line the milk ducts become more sensitive to the regular monthly cycle of sex hormones. If the woman has not been pregnant, these sex hormones provoke a different response from the breast tissues and may eventually stimulate the growth of a breast cancer.

The crucial question — as yet unanswered — is the effect on the breasts of the mixture of hormones provided by oral contraceptives. Research already completed has shown that women who have taken oral contraceptives after their first pregnancy do not seem to have any increased risk of breast cancer. No one yet knows whether the pill increases or reduces the risk of later breast cancer in women who have never been pregnant.

The effects of the various hormone combinations in different pills. For the time being, then, there are more questions than answers. As so often happens in medicine, the more detailed the investigations the more complex appears the background to a disease. One of the few certainties is that (short of a massive nuclear war) the world will remain overpopulated. In the twenty-first century few women will want more than one or two pregnancies in their 30 years of fertile adult life. What the medical research teams have to find is the optimum combination of hormones in those 30 years, reducing risks as far as possible with a minimum of intervention.

Dr Tony Smith
Medical Correspondent

THE ARTS

Television

A rich harvest

The first of planned cycle of "Tony stories", he tells us in *Radio Times*, centring on crises of English Conservatism and false revolutionary dawns since the end of the Second World War, Trevor Griffiths's *Country* (BBC 1) took place in a wealthy brewer's mansion during the General Election of 1945 while the stables were occupied by an ominous brood of common folk. The black sheep (James Fox) returned, was persuaded to take over the firm and turned the tide of revolution indefinitely with the invention of recarbonated beer: what Bill Haydon in *Tinker, Tailor*... actually went to call the economic suppression of the masses had begun.

Country was also offered, according to its author, as a critique of the *Country House Play* — a fake genre Mr Griffiths claims, since it proposes that the aristocratic life is the same as the rest of us, only richer, whereas any good Marxist knows that money has transformed them into an alien species, a race apart. Evelyn Waugh would have warmly agreed, so *Country* could have been alluding to *Brideshead*. To what, then? *Dear Octopus*, improbably close at time in character and situation (even if, unlike Cicely Courtneidge, Wendy Hillier displayed small interest in folding her dinner napkin into swans). There was a close and deliberate affinity with *The Cherry Orchard*, of which Griffiths and his director Richard Eyre gave us a marvellously lucid version at

the same time a week ago, with Lopachin, naturally and with-out strain to the masterpiece, becoming a figure of quiet humanity and conviction. But the relationship of *Country* to Chekov was ill-defined, and the technical demands of confronting the kind of events and confrontations that spread across three or four acts in the theatre into 80 minutes without a break gave the playwright little time for anything else.

There were two other reasons why the result, although always promising to ignite and therefore never dull, fell between propaganda and pastiche. It failed to live down to the writer's reductive economic view of human nature — that, after all, created was not, after all, unlike most groups of repressed and repressive relatives gathering for a christening, a birthday and a dance — while Ann Scott's production and Mr Eyre's directing had the kind of elegance and style that becomes a pleasure, perhaps distracting, in itself. Mr Fox, led by a genuinely distinguished cast (Joan Greenwood, voice and mischievous unimpairment, Jill Bennett in carnivorous form, Penelope Wilton, calm and grave as the communist daughter returned, for the kill) with performance of almost disconcerting energy and charm that packed a hypnotic unpredictability suggesting quite a different sort of play.

Michael Ratcliffe

Dance

Kabuki

Sadler's Wells

The last time Kabuki was seen in London, in 1977, it was led by Ichikawa Ennosuke III and it was obvious that he was already a master. By combining a scholarly respect for the ancient traditions of the form with a theatrical command of the modern stage elements, from lighting to design, he has become the most imposing Kabuki actor in Japan and the items he has brought on his return to Sadler's Wells reaffirm and amplify his great skills.

He has not settled for the easiest of pieces, nor for those that might concentrate on the splendour of pictorial elements of the form into a short dose of colourful exotica for the London audience. The two items instead offer a range of challenges and subtleties and they are accessible through consummate acting skills, impeccable musical support and a particularly rich vision of the stage picture.

Renjishi is the opening piece, a Kabuki dance derived from the Noh theatre. Against the backdrop of 13 musicians, two actors tell how a father lion pushes his son into a ravine to teach him survival. The father's anxiety presents Ennosuke with an opportunity to project the most tender emotions throughout the theatre, but the piece assumes an extraordinary measure of spectacle when the spirits of the legendary lions take over, with a glorious change of costume and thrilling rhythmic dances. Ennosuke's partner in this is Ichikawa Danshiro IV, another greatly talented actor who becomes Ennosuke's antagonist in *Shunkan*, from the play by Chikamasa. With sword, staff, sung narrative and exchanges of speech, it is nearer to the ordinary idea of Kabuki. But that idea can make little preparation for the last five minutes of Ennosuke's performance, a physical demonstration of emotions designed to haunt the spectator forever. It should be seen, at all costs.

Ned Chaillet



Jeremy's many irons in the fire

Pictured is Jeremy Irons, the star of the moment, as photographed recently by Lord Snowdon. Last night he appeared in the second part of Granada's 11-part adaptation of Evelyn Waugh's *Brideshead Revisited* in which Charles Ryder, the character he plays, spent an idyllic summer at Brideshead with Sebastian Flyte and Lord Marchmain (Laurence Olivier). *Brideshead*, at £4.5m the most

expensive television serial ever made, has so far proved a hit with the critics but Granada is waiting edgily for the end of the week when viewing figures will finally be released.

Meanwhile Irons is also starring in *The French Lieutenant's Woman*, a film by Karel Reisz, which has also been widely acclaimed by the critics. He is currently sifting offers for his next project but his only firm plan at the moment is *Betrayal*, a

film version of Harold Pinter's play produced by Sam Spiegel, which will start filming in London in March next year. As in *Brideshead*, *Betrayal* will require the 33-year-old Irons to age.

Commenting on the reception accorded to *Brideshead*, Irons said: "It brought a great sense of relief and a great sense of excitement. I am proud of it and thrilled by the reception. It was delightful, like giving birth to a beautiful baby."

Sponsorship

Why business wants a seat in the circle

The growth phase of public funding of the arts has ground to a halt. The best time now is that Government finance will at least mark time, though real cuts seem more likely and indeed are currently dreaded almost daily.

But the arts' hunger for cash is undiminished and steadily made more painful by the fact that their costs almost invariably suffer a more punitive rate of inflation than the rest of the economy. Against that background, commercial sponsorship is rapidly being buried, while companies are showing a willingness to invest in what IBM grudgingly calls a Cultural Sponsorship Programme.

The latest indications for this year suggest that companies will put £5m into the arts, against £5m last year, and £600,000 in 1976. It is still small compared with the Arts Council's £80m or the total Government arts budget of £180.7m but the key point is that it is growing rapidly and its application is becoming increasingly sophisticated.

Sophistication has also spread to the recipients of the cash. It is no longer discrediting for companies or audiences to discover that a performance of *King Lear* has been underwritten by profits from computers, that sherry consumption may be financing a piano recital or that smoking and opera are luxuries linked. The faint whiff of the grotesque which used to accompany commercial sponsorship or the arts has been dispelled.

The sense of grotesquerie arose from a particularly English puritanism which finds it difficult to reconcile

marketing and the sublime. The gravest statement of this difficulty was the National Theatre's disclosure that it had turned down £750,000 worth of sponsorship earlier this year because "it seems to us wrong to be in a position where we had to have private sponsorship to do the job we are paid to do by public money."

But financial pressures have rendered such fastidiousness outdated; meanwhile the Government has taken to sipping the pill of public spending cuts in this area by making encouraging noises about commercial sponsorship.

The fact that commercial money is available at all in the depths of recession is possibly surprising. But the characteristic sponsors — banks, insurance companies or retailers — are generally those least affected by cash flow crises while tobacco and drink companies are now sufficiently committed to the idea to prevent any sudden cancellations.

Most of the established sponsors now appear to be roughly improving their contributions in line with inflation rather than taking new initiatives. The growth in the market is being generated

partly by new companies joining in and partly by the rapid expansion of the related fields in which money can be spent. Thus a sponsored concert can lead to a sponsored season which in turn can lead to a sponsored set of records.

A fully commercial entrepreneur, bringing together money and talent

With the exception of commercial patronage, in which companies like Guinness and Marks and Spencer give money as part of their perceived communal duty rather than for public relations, company money is spent to promote the company. "We don't do this because we like the arts", commented one faintly weary executive. In the most typical case a big prestigious opera performance provides a big prestigious corporate image for the company whose name is above the title.

Straightforward cheque-signing for the blockbusters of the performing arts remains the type of sponsorship of which most companies first

think. But vast parties of company guests pouring in late after the interval have regularly negated any good will as far as the audience is concerned. On the other side the arts companies have always felt that such random beneficence is unpredictable and therefore damaging to any long-term planning.

It is in these edgy areas in which people like Luke Rittner and Bill Kallaway have been working to improve communications and understanding. Rittner is director of the Association for Business Sponsorship of the Arts which is funded by its corporate members, while Kallaway is a fully commercial entrepreneur bringing together money and talent.

To the accusation that commercial money is spasmodic Rittner's response is that all money is spasmodic. Knowing whether a sponsor is available may well be as impossible as knowing whether tickets will be sold. Meanwhile corporate insensitivity is gradually being overcome by increasing maturity in a field which is still less than a decade old in this country.

"Of course in an ideal world", he said, "Patronage would be a better system. But sponsorship means we can put up an arguable case for a company as to why it should back the local theatre or whatever."

From the arts side Rittner is also observing and encouraging a less apathetic attitude towards sponsorship by the organizations. Public subsidy has made many of them narrow minded about sources of finance but gradually, with the appointment of full time employees searching for sponsors, they are waking up to the potential and accepting the extent to which the sponsors can justifiably specify precisely the performance with which they wish to be associated.

The danger is, of course, that the whole sponsorship market may mature to the point where arts organizations simply become extremely elaborate advertising vehicles. Kallaway insists this is not happening.

"Companies want to be supportive rather than dominating," he said. "We have never had any person who



Young promenaders queue outside the Royal Opera House before one of the special Proms performances sponsored each year by the Midland Bank.

wants to change artistic ambitions at all." But what is happening — and mutterings throughout industry and the arts suggest this may be the dominant trend of the future — is that sponsorship is increasing in what Kallaway calls "objectivity".

By this he means that sponsors are linking product and sponsored performance more closely — he pointed to the Segovia International Guitar Competition backed by the Spanish sherry producers. But the real point is that recessionary pressures on cash are forcing companies to look more closely at what their sponsorship achieves. This more corporate image-building is now falling out of favour and there is an unacknowledged drift of control of arts sponsorship from public relations to marketing departments.

Bryan Appleyard

Concerts

Models of composure

Pollini

Festival Hall

Fond as he is of mixing modern works with standard repertoire, Maurizio Pollini can rarely come up with a programme as exciting and apt as that he gave on Monday night. He began with Beethoven, choosing two of the middle-period sonatas whose deep earnest boldness and impatience could then be turned in the many mirrors of Webern's variations, to yield, finally, the second sonata of the young Boulez. Or looked at another way, here were two titans held apart by an angel.

There was, though, more than a touch of quivering angelic radiance in both the Beethoven and the Boulez, a feeling of strife and vigour taken up into a wholly mental sphere. Sometimes, as in the case of opposites held in perfect, tense unease, as in the slow movement of the "Tempest" sonata, with its parallel streams of stark funeral tolling and nervously supple melody. Sometimes a very fast tempo, as in the first movement of the "Waldstein", yet gave an impression of complete physical stillness, just as a gas flame is the stable image of a racing flow of energy.

Perhaps, too, it was the tireless wrestling of the Boulez that contrived to make the Beethoven sonatas seem in retrospect models of composure. Again the fight took place in the mind, as is entirely proper. Boulez's insistence that so-called expressive nuances should be avoided is surely not a declaration of emptiness but rather a challenge to the performer to touch levels hidden behind the easy convention of emotion. This Mr Pollini did. Playing most remarkably from memory, he communicated all the intellectual effort of grappling with what cannot be understood, of questioning and questioning and questioning again without any hope of there being a coherent answer.

His view beyond mere violence and outrage was especially welcome.

Paul Griffiths

City of London

Sinfonia/Hickox

Queen Elizabeth Hall

The virtues of conservatism might have been the theme for Monday night's City of London Sinfonia concert: an imaginative coupling of the music of Gerald Finzi and Nicholas Maw. The label should not be taken pejoratively; neither composer would claim, or have claimed, to be in the avant garde, but each has enriched his tradition with works of integrity and bearing a personal imprint. Finzi is best remembered by *Die Maitais*, a skillful and moving setting of poetry by Thomas Traherne portraying vision of innocence dear to Finzi's heart. The cantata is generally performed with a solo tenor; here the soloist was the soprano Anne Dawson, at only 22, the winner of several prizes and surely on the verge of an exciting career. The unusual beauty of her voice and enchanting stage personality seduce her audience, so much so that one does not at first notice the unvaried tone colour and dynamics. Nevertheless there is a deep music waiting to be brought out here.

Nicholas Maw's *Life Studies*, a series of eight pieces for 15 solo strings, was acclaimed at its appearance a new development in the composer's style. Depending neither on conventional sonata structure nor a single tonal centre, the studies evolve their own inner logic by their dramatic coherence and by the sheer forcefulness of their argument.

The City of London Sinfonia under Richard Hickox did justice to these aspects in their performance of Studies numbers 2, 7 and 8.

Other Finzi pieces, the *Eclogue Op. 10* for piano and strings, and the *Clarinet Concerto* were given superb performances by David Perrett and Michael Collins respectively. With these players at 20 and 19 years of age it was very much an evening for outstanding young talent.

Barry Millington

Theatre

The Catch

Royal Court Theatre Upstairs

Nick Darke's short piece follows Paul Copley's *Tapster* as another exercise in studio theatre provincialism. For anyone coming fresh to this genre, its distinguishing features include uncompromisingly authentic local dialect, microscopic naturalism, and a preoccupation with the delayed impact of mainstream British life on the remotest backwaters on the map. The usual message for any pastorially-inclined metropolitan spectator is that he is better off where he is than in some beleaguered village or desolate rain-lashed headland.

The Catch takes place somewhere on the West Country coast in the ramshackle house of a middle-aged fisherman called Swiddle who has been driven into casual trading by the declining catches. The "bas-tards" who are never off his lips in the first scene seem to be French invaders of the 12-mile limit. And evidence of Swiddle's defeat is strewn around Chris Townsend's stage in the crates of bone china, second-hand books, gonks, and cheap electric fans.

Other casualties of the vanishing mackerel shoals are Swiddle's smoulderingly discontented younger daughter Thelma, and his unsatisfactory son-in-law Lesdwell — nominally a life boat cox who puts more time into handling hot goods and playing in pop music gigs than he does into safeguarding the coastline.

All three agree that they are living in a dead place. "I wake up in the morning," says Swiddle, "and put my blunkers on... I walk down the street and see the useless ornaments." But there are different degrees of capitulation to the bombardment of trash. Thelma holds on indignantly to what is left of the seafaring heritage, pouncing

indignantly on her father for tramping the family's nautical instruments for a cure of china. Lesdwell has renounced the past entirely. Swiddle remains stranded between them, compromised but not yet fully corrupted, and the play's action puts him to the test. He is offered a consignment of cocaine, which he first agrees to hold as a middleman, and then destroys.

am not sure what that proves, but it is the manner in which he does it that counts. He slices into the packer with an axe and then blows the contents into oblivion with one of the electric fans. Mr Darke, having assembled stage-full of junk, profitably enlists it in the story-telling.

He also introduces a sardonic little puppet play with the crate of gonks, and gives the frustrated trader a good china smashing scene. The story is also strengthened by the presence of the unseen figure of Gogo — a newcomer who has livened up the town in more ways than one; and who supplies the structure for another well organized scene where the pregnant daughter and his pregnant father are both trying to make a secret phone call to the man who has landed both of them in a mess.

Otherwise, apart from the sheer thickness of its dialect, the play is needlessly opaque. Essential plot points are buried in superfluous detail, motives change for no clear reason, and there is a prevailing uncertainty of what the characters want. The play sits on the stage like a heavy weight which it is beyond the playwright's energy to raise and animate. I am in no position to dispute the authenticity of the performances of Mike Groves, Tom Watson, and Frances Low, but if it was the intention of Mr Darke and his director, Roger Mitchell, to bring this hidden bit of England into well-focused close-up, they have not succeeded.

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THE WORKERS HAVE IT

The sale of the National Freight Corporation is not the most important bit of Mr Lawson's privatization package, but it is the most interesting, and the bit that can be welcomed with fewest misgivings. The corporation's employees, management and workers, are being given the opportunity to acquire a stake in this company, the major responsibility for it. The deal represents one form of structural remedy for a besetting weakness of British industry at large: a negative attitude among large sections of the workforce towards the prosperity of their enterprise.

The form of sale may have been less the result of idealism than of a manifesto commitment to sell off the Corporation which fell on stony ground when a share issue on the market came to be considered. The management buy-out became the convenient way out. But whether by accident or design a good deed has been done. And this is a particularly welcome experiment. Management buy-outs, common in the United States but slow to develop in Britain, have recently burgeoned in this country as large companies have wished to rid themselves of subsidiary activities and as conglomerates have collapsed. Anasofne and Hornby are two recent examples of the trend.

The National Freight Corporation is by far the largest example so far, involving £80m of bank money and up to £5m of capital from management and workers on current plans. It has the added attraction that it is providing a new route for a state corporation that builds

on the loyalty and commitment of its staff and gives those who have helped to build the company a chance to control its launch into the heavy seas of the free market. The encouragement of workers to take shares in the British Aerospace issue and the announced intention to give employees preference in the proposed bond issue for British Telecom is part of the same drift.

One should be careful of writing too idealistic a prescription for Britain's industrial woes. The situation at NFC is a particular one. The banks have undoubtedly taken an especially benign view partly in answer to the political pressure they now feel upon them over their lending practices to industry. There are distinctions to be drawn between hoping to motivate employees by encouraging them to take shares, as in the case of British Aerospace, selling largely to the management with some participation by the staff, as in the case of National Freight, and the fuller blooded cooperatives encouraged by Mr Tony Benn at Meriden and Kirby or the long-established democratically run partnership enterprises such as Scott Bader.

The National Freight plan is not a sale to employees as such. It is a purchase by the managers, who still have to stump up the cash, funded by the banks, which have agreed to take only a relatively small equity interest in the concern, and accompanied by an offer of shares to all employees. The 25,000 staff still have to make their own voices heard amidst conflicting union ad-

vice and have still to decide whether they, whose jobs are at risk, dare also risk their cash. Nor does it form a pattern which other nationalized groups can easily follow. National Freight holds a small share in a transport market dominated by highly competitive small outfits. The plan provides one hope for the future where the company can continue with a new lease of life freed from government involvement. It cannot be said that services like the Post Office or British Rail, where the scale and the uncertainty of profit discipline confuse loyalties, could easily travel this route. Selling off oil, the British National Oil Corporation or creating competition for gas sales, come into entirely separate categories of the denationalization argument.

The point of the National Freight plan applies equally to large companies which are breaking up or private enterprises which are collapsing. In so severe an economic climate as Britain's, enterprises desperately need the commitment of enthusiastic management and staff, whilst avoiding either the heavy-handed participation formulae of the Bullock Committee proposals or the tragedy of the co-operative such as Kirby, where workers' enthusiasm came too late to overcome market disaster. Staff buy-outs are one avenue, given City help. They suggest a form of denationalization which should be at least considered for a whole range of state enterprises from pits or pit areas of the National Coal Board to particular subsidiaries of British Steel.

UNGODLY RULERS OF IRAN

Amnesty International announced last week that at least 3,350 people had been executed in Iran since the revolution of 1,500 of them since the dismissal of President Bani-Sadr on June 20 this year - and that it had asked the Iranian authorities to admit a delegation in the hope of persuading them to stop the executions, or at least to ensure that the accused received a fair trial. This announcement seems to have touched Ayatollah Khomeini on a surprisingly - one might say encouragingly - raw nerve. On Sunday he devoted several minutes of an address to members of Iran's Parent-Teacher Association to denouncing "these international organizations - Amnesty International - which have asked to visit Iran and see the executions", accusing them of being "affiliated to the diabolical powers", aspiring to "crush this Islamic movement and, thus Islam" and so on.

The sad fact is that any report of less than a hundred executions on any given day in Iran scarcely ranks as news any longer. The terror in Iran has become the norm rather than the event. As such it makes fewer headlines and provokes fewer editorials. But it would be very unfortunate if anyone in Iran, whether in government or in opposition or merely caught between the two, got the impression that public opinion in the West was indifferent to what is happen-

ing in Iran, now that the American hostages have been freed. Clearly the execution of Iranians by Iranians does not raise the same kind of international issues that the hostage-taking did. The last thing any Iranian should want would be further foreign intervention in Iran's internal affairs. It is not our job to overthrow the Khomeini regime, but equally we should be careful not to give the impression of actively condoning it or prolonging its life.

That is the impression which, rightly or wrongly, some Iranians have derived from the relative silence on the subject observed by Western governments and, to a lesser extent, news media. From the continued pursuit of commercial opportunities in Iran by European business men (apparently encouraged by their governments); and from opinions voiced in various influential Western quarters to the effect that (a) the present "Islamic" regime is preferable to communism, which would be the most likely alternative, and/or (b) the regime, even in its present form, will drift ever closer to the Soviet block if it is rebuffed by the West.

Such opinions are indeed held in influential quarters, including the United States State Department, whose officials (recognizing that any kind of friendly relations between America and Iran are impossible for the time being)

have been urging European governments to do what they can to make up for this. The dangers they refer to are real.

They were foreseen at the time of the hostage crisis by some Iranians, including those around President Bani-Sadr, who favoured a genuinely non-aligned position for Iran in world affairs. Some of them suspected, indeed, that the hostage crisis had been engineered precisely for the purpose of isolating Iran from Europe and other potential trading partners and forcing her into the Soviet embrace. There was a strong argument at that time for seeking to help such moderates by not cutting off all ties with Iran. But those moderates have now decisively lost the power struggle within the regime.

It can hardly be doubted that the majority of Iranians are by now thoroughly sick of clerical rule. The regime's policies have brought anarchy, terror, war and now growing economic deprivation as oil sales dwindle and foreign currency reserves have to be more and more stringently rationed. Many of those who most bitterly opposed the Shah concede that the Islamic dictatorship has now far surpassed the bestiality of his reign. The West earned the enmity of many Iranians by being too closely associated with the Shah. We should leave to the East the odium of being associated with the "Iman".

MR ALDERSON'S PASSIVE RESISTANCE

Two points of some importance for this age of civil protest come out of the judgments in the Court of Appeal in the dispute between the Central Electricity Generating Board and the Chief Constable of Devon and Cornwall. The dispute arose out of a survey the board is doing of a site at Luxulyan in Cornwall, which it has picked as one of several possible sites for a nuclear power station. Protesters arrived and one way or another have been passively obstructing the survey for six months. The board wants the assistance of the police in clearing the obstruction. The Chief Constable has been reluctant to intervene.

The first point of importance is that the Chief Constable misdirected himself when he concluded that he had no clear lawful authority to remove from private ground protesters who were wholly passive and were not offering physical violence. They were committing a minor offence under the Town and Country Planning Act 1971, that of wilfully obstructing servants of the board in the exercise of their powers. But it is not an arrestable offence; nor, in the opinion of the senior police-men who went down there, had the protesters committed a breach of the peace, nor was there a reasonable apprehension of it. From that the Chief Constable concluded that his men should maintain their "low-key presence" in the

absence of "a more definitive legal mandate".

That more definitive mandate has now arrived from the Appeal Court. The protesters' criminal obstruction is itself a breach of the peace. "There is a breach of the peace whenever a person who is lawfully carrying out his work is unlawfully and physically prevented by another from doing it," Lord Denning said. And "physically" does not mean only by a show of threat or violence, but includes the tactics of passive resistance, sitting, lying down, chaining oneself to this or that. Lord Denning added for good measure that the protesting groups are "without doubt" guilty of a criminal conspiracy and probably also guilty of unlawful assembly. Lord Justice Lawton posed the question whether those who disapprove of the exercise of its powers by a statutory body can frustrate their exercise on private property by adopting unlawful means of passive resistance. "The answer is an emphatic 'No'. If it were otherwise there would be no Rule of Law. All this goes very wide and may need later qualification. Meanwhile it amply covers the facts of this case."

The second important point to emerge is that the Court did not, as it was invited to do, direct the Chief Constable in the performance of his duty; and it is clear that it would be very slow to do so in similar cases.

Again to quote Lord Denning, "It is of the first importance that the police should decide on their own responsibility what action should be taken in any particular situation." The independence of chief constables in operational matters is respected (councillors please note).

One can infer from the evidence in these proceedings that Mr Alderson's doubt about lawful authority was not the consideration uppermost in his mind when he decided that his men should maintain their "low-key" presence and not, as requested, put an end to the obstruction. He was concerned not to jeopardize the fruits of his method of community policing - excellent relations with the general body of citizens - by appearing to intervene on the locally unpopular side of an inflammatory issue. He has now been told very clearly that he has lawful authority to clear the obstruction, and the judges have not concealed their opinion that he has a duty to do so. But the court has not interfered with his discretion, which means that it is up to him, in discussion with the generating board, how and by what stages he is to proceed. A public wider than Mr Alderson's has a right to insist that the unlawful obstruction of a statutory body be brought to an end, and he can surely devise a way of doing it that does not defeat the admirable objectives of his characteristic policeman'ship.

Initiatives for disarmament

From the Secretary of the Methodist Conference

Sir, The tendency to don labels like "black and white" distinctions between what are seen to be opposing policies can sometimes obscure an important truth. The present polarization between those who espouse the cause of unilateral disarmament and those who plead for unilateral action is a case in point.

In the aftermath of the tragic death of President Anwar Sadat many have praised his courage in making the historic journey to Jerusalem which initiated the Middle East "peace process". I myself travelled to Cairo nearly three years ago to present the annual peace award of the World Methodist Council to President Sadat. But that award was made in recognition of a unilateral action which, notwithstanding all the promises to the contrary, the Middle East, opened up an era of new possibilities.

The lesson of this is plain: there is little likelihood of progress on the multilateral front without some willingness to undertake unilateral initiatives. The test of real statesmanship today is the readiness to contrive and then to take the unilateral steps that will deliver from the political impotence that allows the monstrous and idiotic arms race to escalate. Amidst all the ballyhoo of party conferences and political argument wise men will listen to the words of the special

Assembly on disarmament with mutual agreement proposals for the reversal of the appalling arms build-up in which their governments have been engaged. A bilateral action of immense potential. I have written to them to suggest it.

Yours sincerely,
KENNETH G. GREET,
The Methodist Church Conference Office,
Central Buildings,
Westminster, SW1,
October 15.

From Mr Nicholas Walter
Sir, Clifford Longley's article (October 19) about the religious aspects of the campaign for nuclear disarmament is misleading. He distinguishes between the secular, CNIP/political way of discussing nuclear war, and the church/religious way, and explains that the "secular" argument is a practical one based on self-interest and concerned with risk to our own people, whereas the "religious" argument is a theoretical one based on morality and concerned with threatening destruction to other peoples.

In fact there are pragmatic and dogmatic, egotistic and altruistic, political and religious arguments on both sides of the secular/religious divide. It is significant that the humanist individuals and organizations coming out in favour of nuclear disarmament, as most humanists are, do so for moral reasons, concerned with the common fate of all peoples. The only difference between the motives and the motions which mark the religious positions of, say, the Methodist Conference and the Society of Friends on one side and the British Humanist Association and the National Secular Society on the other is the being of God. The religious positions behind the arguments, not the arguments themselves. On this issue, as on so many others, religious and non-religious people find themselves working together and, for much the same reasons.

Yours, etc.
NICHOLAS WALTER,
New Humanist,
88 Islington High Street, N1,
October 19.

Sir Roger Hollis

From Sir Martin Farnham Jones and Mr C. A. G. Simkins

Sir, Up to the time we retired in the early 1970s, Sir Roger Hollis had been disloyal at any time or in any way, let alone evidence that he was a spy (report, October 16). Moreover, throughout his career his positive contribution to security was outstandingly valuable and his wartime record makes ludicrous any suggestion that he might have been sympathetic to the USSR.

We both worked closely with him for many years and were intimately concerned with the investigation of his background and his subsequent interrogation. We are wholly convinced of his innocence.

Yours faithfully,
E. M. FARNHAM JONES,
C. A. G. SIMKINS,
The Little House,
Oakley,
Bedford,
October 16.

Medical aid for Poland

From the Apostolic Delegate to Great Britain and others

Sir, The plight of Poland is still in the news. After the recent visit of one of the distinguished (Lisowski) to the Gdansk District Hospital and the Gdansk Medical Academy Hospital which cater for a large area of northern Poland, she found the following heart-rending situation: neither of their two electrocardiograph apparatuses are in working order; there is an extreme shortage of surgical gloves; no disposable syringes or needles for single use; no wound dressings; faulty oxygen masks; no monitoring or anaesthetic

Government and BL pay dispute

From Mr D. J. Buckle

Sir, There are some additional points to those set out in Mr Armstrong's letter (October 17) about the current situation within BL Cars which I would like, with your permission, to add.

To those of us who have been involved with the company for many years, and particularly the past three, the decision to reject a 3.8 per cent offer and threaten a strike came as no surprise. Indeed, many of us have been warning management for several months that if they continued with their policy of industrial and moral blackmail every time they wanted important changes.

They have never attempted to convince employees of the need to change, or to win their hearts and minds. It has always been "bend to our will or you will be sacked". For a time that works, but not for ever. The now famous letter, with its threat of total closure, was the last straw for many, because it took away their self-respect. There can be only one answer to blackmail.

It seems to most employees the company is not interested in framing a policy in which genuine negotiations can take place on a mutually acceptable basis. Even when replying to the recent pay claim they said their offer on basic rates was "non negotiable".

Early in Mr Armstrong's letter he paid tribute to the efforts of employees, and Sir Michael Edwards has also praised them for increasing productivity by 30 per cent and that eight men on new production facilities are doing what previously 80 men did. After the strike, however, productivity has been reduced by 40 per cent. Yet later in his letter he says "we cannot fund more" than 3.8 per cent.

WRP and Youth Training

From Miss Vanessa Redgrave

Sir, Contrary to statements made by Mr David Alton MP, in his letter and article respectively published in *The Times* on April 18 and July 8, 1981, the Workers' Revolutionary Party and Youth Training have in no way been involved in organising or inciting riots in Toxteth, Brixton, nor in any other city.

My party is absolutely opposed to looting, making Molotov cocktails, smashing homes and shops, and the sabbing of policemen. Such violent acts have nothing to do with the struggle of trade unions nor the political fight for socialism. I have in my possession a letter written on behalf of the Chief Constable of Derbyshire acknowledging the entirely non-violent nature of the Workers' Revolutionary Party.

My party and our youth, the Young Socialists, initiated the campaign for youth training. We share the view of the majority of people who really care about the jobless, unskilled youth. We all know that youth cannot live and develop on ideas. Youth can only develop when they can learn a skilled trade, and can apply and develop their skill in work which benefits both them and the community. Youth Training is a non-profit making organization which has applied for charitable status and is non-political.

Far from "preying off the frustrations of our young people", Youth Training was established to reduce such frustration by providing in the areas

of greatest need an opportunity for youth to acquire skills which will assist them in gaining employment in modern industry. This is precisely why the first Youth Training centres were set up in Brixton, Liverpool and Glasgow.

Our aim in Youth Training is to provide the best professional training in mechanical engineering, electronics, dressmaking and other crafts, as well as drama, painting and music for jobless and/or unskilled youth, or youth who need to continue training, between the ages of 16 to 22. With the advice of trade unions and local employers we aim to issue proficiency certificates for the youth who pass appropriate tests.

We will work with everyone who wants to establish Youth Training centres. The hundreds of thousands of jobless, unskilled youth today desperately need a skill and a job before they can become interested in any politics or theories or cultural Youth Training is non-political therefore, just as eating, drinking, breathing clean air and sleeping are non-political. These are necessities of life and development. I believe that our centres in Brixton, Liverpool and Glasgow show in a modest way what can be done wherever there is the will to do it.

Yours faithfully,
VANESSA REDGRAVE,
Chairman of Youth Training,
Member of the Central Committee of the Workers' Revolutionary Party,
21B Old Town, SW4,
October 13.

Such polarization, however, will bring benefits. At least political hubbub and hypocrisy is exposed and at least we realize that the recently renewed Glenageary agreement is a worthless treaty, for now that double standards are part of the game, the attempt at play fair may as well be abandoned.

The International Cricket Council have now only one option: they should readmit South Africa to the international game as their own fact-finding mission of 1978 recommended, and make the decision known to the governments of participating countries.

One speculates as to the reaction and whether genuine financial need and sporting intent will override a moral stance that will result in an isolation enjoyed at present by South Africa itself. Yours faithfully,
JOHN CARLISLE,
House of Commons.

cluded 350 Ethiopian manuscripts which, as a result of the museum's recent reorganization, now form part of the British Library.

Your article asserts that it "would take an Act of Parliament" to force the museum "to part with any of its items". It is interesting to note that when Theodore's successor, Emperor Yohannes IV, wrote to Queen Victoria in 1872 to request the return of one of the looted manuscripts the Foreign Secretary gave the appeal his blessing, and the museum trustees expressed "great pleasure" in according to it.

Yours etc.
RICHARD PANKHURST,
22 Lawn Road, NW3,
October 19.

Foreign art treasures

From Dr Richard Pankhurst

Sir, One can appreciate that the British Museum is concerned about the UNESCO proposal that some of its treasures be returned to the Third World. The museum's spokesman, Mr Michael Peckham, claims (article, October 19) that "nothing in the museum was obtained illegally".

Though this may technically be correct, there is no gainsaying that in the case of the Magdala collection at least the museum representative, Richard Holmes, purchased articles which he knew to have been looted. On April 13, 1868, British troops, attacking Emperor Theodore of Ethiopia, sacked the fortress of Magdala. The objects thus acquired in-

equipment. These are but a few of the items on the very long list of vital medicines required.

According to the Government-Solidarity agreement of December 2, 1980, the receiving and distribution of all medical goods, cleaning materials, disinfectants, etc., is to be done by Solidarity. We would like to appeal through your columns for donations, large or small, either to purchase wholesale or to obtain usable secondhand medical equipment for transportation in Polish ships to Gdynia from Poland (Essen), through the good offices of Solidarity. All donations should be sent c/o Courts Bank, Sloane Street, London, SW1, marked Polish Medical Aid. The most necessary equipment and medical supplies can then be obtained and transported to Poland free of charge.

Time is pressing and the tribulations of Poland have lasted too long.

Yours sincerely,
BRUNO B. HEIM,
DEREK WORLOCK,
GRAHAM LONDON,
W. M. S. WEST,
ANDREW DOIG,
EDWARD CARPENTER,
JUDITH LISTOWEL,
ELMA DANGERFIELD,
European-Atlantic Group,
6 Gertrude Street,
Chelsea, SW10.

Board inspections of prisons

From the Chairman of the Board of Visitors, Winslow Green Prison, Birmingham

Sir, With reference to the letter (October 17) from Messrs Cogan and Pooley, of PROP, the facts are that every week of the year at least two members of the Board of Visitors do visit the prison. Members of my board do demand from any member of the staff from the Governor downwards that all parts of the prison and all prison records are open to them.

We do not announce the time of our visits and these may take place at any time of the day and at night.

An annual report is given to the press, radio and television quite independently of the Home Office and is freely commented upon.

Yours faithfully,
G. L. THORPE,
H.M. Prison,
Winslow Green, Birmingham.
October 17.

From Mr Louis Blom-Cooper, QC
Sir, Messrs Cogan and Pooley (October 17) are surely right in asserting that boards of visitors, which by statute supervise our penal institutions, have not hitherto made a very good showing whether in eradicating petty violence in prisons or when confronted with major incidents like the death of Barry Prosser in Winslow Green Prison, Birmingham.

Boards have the power to speak publicly and to publish the annual reports they are obliged to submit to the Secretary of State. Members of boards of visitors are obliged to visit regularly, on a rota system, every part of the prison, and are entitled to visit the prison at any other time, unannounced. They can interview any prisoner out of the sight and hearing of prison officers, and they have a statutory duty to satisfy themselves as to the administration of the prison and the treatment of prisoners. These powers are extensive. Yet a prison governor told last month's Howard League Summer School at Bristol that in his experience boards of visitors let the prison service off far too lightly by declining to exercise their powers to the full.

Many of the major recommendations in the report of the Jellicoe committee (an unofficial committee jointly sponsored by the Howard League, Justice and Nacro (National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders)) have not been implemented, notably separating the boards' disciplinary functions from that of public watchdog, advertising the opportunity for public service awards and, not least, changing the confusing name of "boards of visitors". The recent establishment of a voluntary association of members of boards of visitors (Ambovi), wholly independent of the Home Office, has been a most welcome development in penal affairs. Boards of visitors could become important bodies, providing the prison system with an independent element so vital to ensure adequate safeguards against misconduct in, and mismanagement of, our prisons.

Yours, etc.
LOUIS BLOM-COOPER,
Chairman, Howard League for Penal Reform,
Goldsmith Building,
Temple, E.C.4.
October 20.

Open churches

From Mr Noel Brandon-Jones

Sir, A gallant exception to the sad tale of locked churches has been the small medieval church of St Clement in Norwich. Declared "redundant" by the diocesan authorities but, unlike most other such churches, happily not plundered of its furnishings, St Clement has for the past three years been kept open 24 hours a day, as a place for prayer and contemplation, through the devotion of the Reverend Jack Burton, a Methodist minister who earns his living as a bus driver and has cheerfully taken upon himself the burden of raising the rental and insurance cost of nearly £1000 a year required by the Norwich Historic Churches Trust, set up to take responsibility for the redundant churches of Norwich.

Incredibly, the trust is now threatening, in order to secure a higher rental from a commercial firm, to terminate what one would have thought to be the most perfect use possible for a church that has become redundant only in terms of parochial organisation.

Yours faithfully,
NOEL BRANDON-JONES,
Redwater House,
Barton Turf,
Norwich.
October 16.

Bridling at Brideshead

From Mr Allan Todd

Sir, Like Mr d'Antal (October 15) I was a sergeant-major in 1941 and I confess to my shame that I failed to notice the anomalies he spotted in *Brideshead Revisited*.

I was also a contemporary of Charles Ryder and Lord Sebastian Flyte at Oxford. I must say I don't remember seeing my fellow undergraduates in ordinary day attire wearing stiff collars, and while they wore gowns to lectures, etc., they did not wear mortar boards. I didn't see Lord Sebastian or anybody else carrying round a teddy bear in public, but perhaps this practice was confined to the precincts of the House.

Yours truly,
ALLAN TODD,
Sedlands,
St George's Lees,
Sandwich,
Kent.
October 15.

Sri Lanka

A Special Report to mark the state visit by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh which begins today

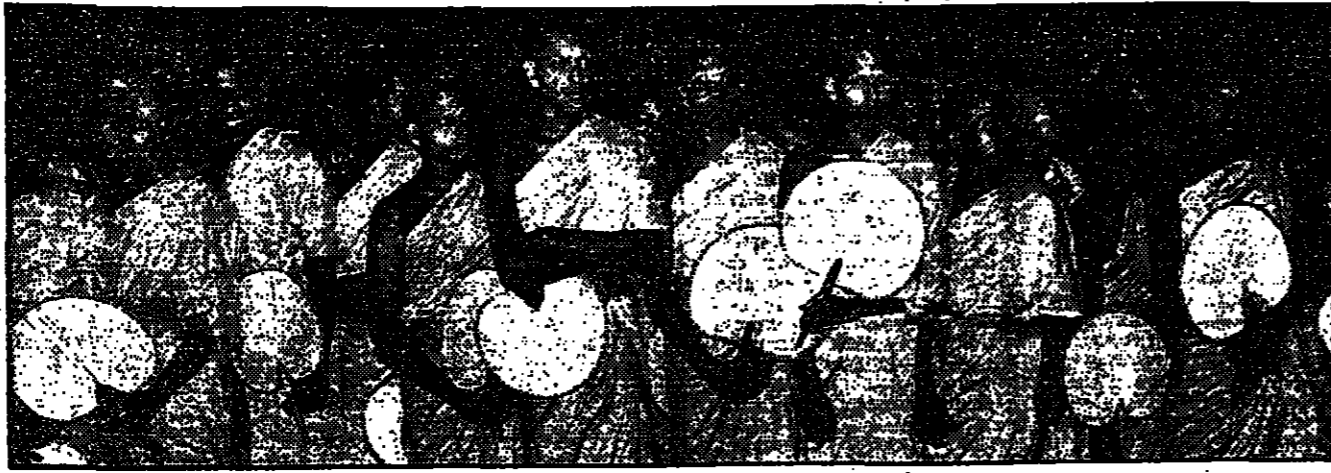
Sri Lanka's brave new era is almost four years old. The daring and ambitious changes made under the leadership of President Jayewardene have revolutionized the economy and made profound changes in the political structure and the outlook and expectations of the people. The price, however, is high. The new road may be exciting, but it is also rocky and risky.

The President himself makes no bones about the economic difficulties. He sees no point in softening them for mere political reasons. He believes most of the 14.8 million people of the country are realistic enough to face the truth, hard though it is. Those who are not, he thinks, have to come to terms with the painful aspects of policies designed to build a better society. He sees no benefit in offering people a flimsy umbrella in the gale.

The course he has charted is irrevocable. In the pre-Jayewardene years, a largely nationalized, protectionist and administered economy had grown stagnant. The United National Party Government elected in July 1977 changed everything with a bold sweep. Backed by the International Monetary Fund, the country embraced a policy of growth in free-market economy.

There was an astonishing surge of activity, of spending, buying and developing, as the country burst from the economic hatches under which it had lived for nearly 30 years. Developments are on the grand scale. Housing has been mushrooming and the harnessing of the Mahaweli River, one of the world's great hydraulic projects, which will irrigate dry land and provide cheap electric power, has been telescoped from a 30-year programme to an eight-year one. The establishment of the new economic order has been characterized by a sense of urgency and vigour.

But it has also been marked by its sheer scale, its ambition and the element of risk, which makes it vulnerable. Sri Lanka has been badly hit by world economic forces, the price of oil most of all. The cost of living is making people increasingly anxious. Inflation has been soaring to 40 per cent and the balance of payments is seriously awry;



Buddhist monks line the road during the Colombo Perahera, a religious festival.

the Government almost lost control of public expenditure in the past year. The IMF and the Government had a run-away on their hands. Today the reins are being tightened, but perhaps not hard enough.

The President is being warned by advisers of something he knows well, that the cost of living is a crucial electoral consideration in a country with a large proportion of poor people. But while he is retaining the food stamps which aid the half of the population which earns less than £8.50 a month, he will not return to a system of general subsidies. He believes there is no alternative to the new policies, that voters will respect his realism and honesty when he tells them there is no quick panacea... but that in the end the policies will work.

The people, he says, can change the Government and the President. He says this not in any arrogant or take-it-or-leave-it fashion, but in an earnest way, a reminder that whatever else, Sri Lanka is a political nation. The people are keenly aware of issues, strongly attached to the democratic idea. They are among the best-educated and most literate of Third World communities and this year celebrate 50 years of full adult franchise, something they achieved only three years after the British. They are well-practised in voting governments out.

During its years of reconstruction in opposition, the United National Party and Mr Jayewardene planned a new political framework as well as economic revolution. Swept to office with 140 of the 168 parliamentary seats the UNP reformed the Constitution to introduce proportional representation and an executive president. The UNP view was that the country needed the continuity of governments living out a full term, or two, and of an executive president serving for six years. Government and presidency are separate and the president cannot veto legislation. Emergency powers, like public finances, are subject to parliamentary control.

The creation of an executive presidency, with constitutional checks to prevent abuse of power, has attractions in a young developing country like Sri Lanka. The quality of the institution, of course, lies in the ability of the incumbent and therein, perhaps, is a future weakness. For the time being, however, Sri Lanka has an able leader. President Jayewardene is the most experienced politician in the land, skilled in balancing the inadequacies, strengths and aspirations of social and political interests. He saw to it that the UNP gave up the lower castes and the traditionally disadvantaged a place nearer the sun. He is above all a pragmatist.

On a personal level his integrity is unquestioned and respect for him is enormous. His reputation abroad was established with his passionate speech at the Japanese peace treaty conference 30 years ago. He has been a leader of the non-aligned movement, and non-alignment, he says, is the best safety policy a country can have. All being well, the President will stand at the 1984 presidential election, when he will be 77. Thanks partly to proportional representation, the UNP should be returned in the 1983 general election. The opposition is fragmented and, quarrelling, and Mrs Bandaranaike, whose name still carries some force, is politically sterilized under an order stripping her of civic rights for six years for abusing power when she was Prime Minister. Of course, rising prices and discontent could upset the expectations of President and Government.

There is not much criticism of the Government in the press. Newspapers are largely Government-controlled and, under emergency rule, are censored. The press is not one of Sri Lanka's strengths, and there is a need for an improvement in the status and quality of journalism, in keeping with the democratic ideal. There are some independent papers, but the best reporting of Sri Lanka is done

by journalists working for foreign publications who are not censored. The emergency rule imposed this summer sprang from one of the Government's spikiest problems, the relationship between the Tamil minority and Sinhala majority. From time to time communal resentments have erupted into riot and bloodshed and this year there have been serious outbreaks of arson, rioting and savagery. The relationship between the communities is still a tender sore and will not be easy for the President to heal. The President hopes that the 24 newly elected district councils will act as a balm as well as a devolutionary extension of democracy.

Though many of Sri Lanka's people are poor they are better off in terms of nutrition, health, education and life expectancy than many other developing nations. The country is becoming self-sufficient in food. The Jayewardene years have been a dynamic, creative and forward-looking period — and the promise is exciting. But the economic storm clouds and the rumble of communal tensions pose their threats. In the evening of his long life the President faces perhaps the greatest of his challenges. The next few years are critical.

Trevor Fishlock

Simon Scott Plummer looks at British involvement in the island over 200 years

From 1763 to today

The British made their first formal contact with Sri Lanka in 1763, when an embassy was sent from Madras to the King of Kandy. They were back, more forcefully, in the 1780s, when they briefly occupied the fort at Trincomalee during the American War of Independence, and towards the end of the century, when they seized the Dutch forts on the island during the French Revolutionary Wars.

In 1798 responsibility for these new possessions was transferred from the East India Company to the Crown. British dominion was confined to the coast, however, and it took another 17 years to extend it to the entire island. This came with the capture in 1815 of Rajah Sinha, the last of the Sinhalese dynasty, who was deported to India.

The nineteenth century saw the development of a full colonial system in Sri Lanka. Indian labour was brought in to work the large plantations from 1850 onwards and two new crops, tea and rubber, were introduced.

Various nationalist organizations came into being on the island during the second half of the century and in 1919 most of them united in the Ceylon National Congress. Twelve years later, with the establishment of the State Council, the British handed over responsibility for domestic affairs. Members of the Council were elected by universal adult suffrage.

From 1942-45 the headquarters of the Allied Command in South-East Asia were on the island. Colombo was attacked by Japanese bombers in 1942.

The British had promised Sri Lanka independence at the end of the war and in 1948, after long negotiations, it became an independent country within the Commonwealth. D. S. Senanayake was its first Prime Minister.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh made their first state visit to Sri Lanka in 1954, when their present host, Junius Jayewardene, was Leader of the House of Representatives and Minister of Agriculture and Food in the United National Party (UNP) Government of Dudley Senanayake, the first Prime Minister's son.

Since then the country has swung between periods of rule by the Sri Lanka Freedom Party (SLFP), under father and daughter Bandaranaike (1956-65 and 1970-77), and by the UNP (1965-70 and 1977 onwards). The policies of the first have been characterized by nationalism and socialism, while the second has favoured opening the island to foreign investment and encouraging the private sector. In 1972, under Mrs Bandaranaike, the country was declared a republic and changed its name from Ceylon to Sri Lanka.

Another change since 1954 is the emergence of the Tamil problem, which exploded into communal violence earlier this year and led to the declaration of a state of emergency.

Supporters of a separate state for Tamils demonstrated outside the Commonwealth Institute in July when the Queen opened an exhibition of Sri Lankan culture. The exhibition was part of the year-long celebrations to mark 50 years of universal suffrage in Sri Lanka.

During the current visit the royal couple will go to the site of the Victoria Dam in the centre of the island, east of Kandy. This is one of three dams to be built on the Mahaweli River which will provide hydro-electric power and irrigation for agriculture. The Mahaweli project is considered to be the key to development in Sri Lanka and the British Overseas Development Administration (ODA) has made its largest ever single allocation of aid to the Victoria Dam.

The grant will amount to about £100m between fiscal 1980-81 and 1984-85, when the dam is scheduled for completion. Sir Alexander Gibb and Partners are the designers and consulting engineers and the main contractors are Balfour Beatty/Nuttall (dam and tunnel, about £65m), Whessoe/Boving (hydraulic equipment, about £16m) and Costain (power station, about £7m).

The project is running behind schedule for several reasons: delays in building the township for the workers; a rock fall in the tunnel which will take the water to the power station three and three

quarter miles downstream; a slight fault in the rock beneath the dam; and a freak rainstorm recently which pushed the river over the top of the protective dams.

In Colombo the Queen will open a new British Council building, evidence of the increasingly important role played by the Council as the Sri Lankan Government seeks to arrest the decline in standards of English.

Under the Key English Language Teaching Scheme, funded by the ODA and run by the Council, teachers are being sent out to each of the six teacher-training colleges in Sri Lanka where English is taught. They will be assisted by Voluntary Service Overseas (VSO) teachers. In addition, the Council will run courses in English language teaching at its new headquarters in Colombo.

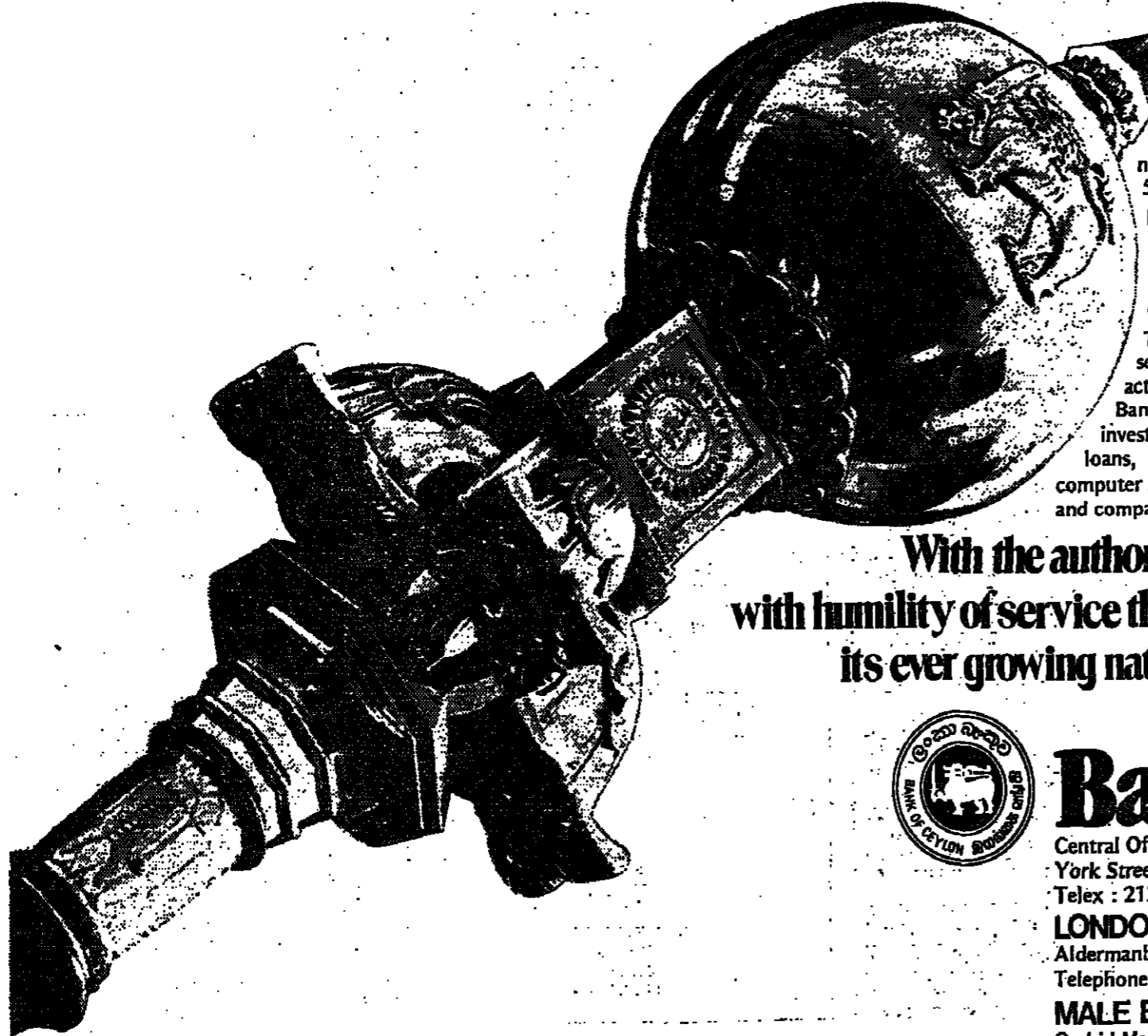
In higher education, it has been instrumental in arranging for the engineering faculty at Leeds University to help the University of Moratuwa in developing courses in applied science and has done the same in applied statistics with Reading University and the University of Colombo.

Finally, the Council is acting as an agent for the World Bank in a scheme to train young Sri Lankans in building skills such as carpentry and bricklaying. The scheme, which will run for three years initially, will help to alleviate the severe shortage of skilled labour on the island.

Trade between Britain and Sri Lanka rose dramatically during the first years of the Jayewardene Government as the country stepped up imports of capital and consumer goods. However, belt-tightening is now the order of the day and officials in London think it will be some years before there is another significant improvement in trade prospects.

In 1980 Britain exported nearly £77m worth of goods, mainly machinery and transport equipment, and was the third largest supplier, after Japan and Saudi Arabia. With imports worth nearly £54m, mainly tea, coffee, spices, fruit, vegetables, rubber and coconut, it was Sri Lanka's second largest customer, after the United States.

Sheer Distinction



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Telephone: 606-6811 & 606-5597 Telex: 883587

MALE BRANCH
Orchid Magu 2, Male, Republic of Maldives. Telephone: 3045 & 3046

The making of President Jayewardene

A man who knows the jungle

Junius Richard Jayewardene was born on September 17, 1906, the eldest of 11 children, into one of Ceylon's great Sinhalese lawyer families. The family enjoyed a certain affluence, a love of culture and politics, and sunny privilege under benign colonial rule. It was also a nationalist and independence-minded family. J.R., as he became known, seemed predestined to do well and to emerge a leader.

He was named after one of his five uncles. There is a picture of them standing with Jayewardene's father, and bearing the fine names of Junius Quintus, Justus Serenus, Theodore Godfred, A.S.V., and Hector.

The young J.R., called Dick as a boy, learnt English and the piano, and read Dickens and Shakespeare, under the eye of his Scottish governess, Miss Munro. He played cricket and rugby, and boxed, at Royal College, Colombo, and followed his father, who became a judge, into the law.

His father was a Christian and a regular churchgoer. His mother was a Buddhist and there was no rancour in a tolerant home when Dick

adopted her faith at the age of 17. Buddhism has been a central influence in his life. It no doubt has a part in the serenity for which he is noted.

At 10 he adopted his father's habit and began to read *The Times*. He recalls that the first news that lodged in his mind was Lord Kitchener's death at sea in 1916. He followed the war, Lloyd George's career and the development of postwar politics. "It was part of my political education. I've been a reader for 65 years."

He was called to the Bar and practised for 10 years, but his interest, increasingly, was politics. He was an admirer of Gandhi and, naturally enough for a radically-minded young man, was drawn to Ceylon's independence movement. He visited the Mahatma and Nehru during the war. He became a Colombo Councillor in 1941, a State Councillor a year later and was Ceylon's first Finance Minister after independence in 1948.

He has had a long career on the international stage. He was a co-author of the Colombo Plan of 1951, which gave economic aid to South

and South-east Asia, and has been a frequent inhabitant of Commonwealth and non-aligned conferences.

He still takes pride in his speech of reconciliation at the Japan Peace Treaty Conference. His theme was the Buddhist message "hatred ceases not by hatred but by love".

It founded a special relationship with the Japanese. When they asked him recently what they could do for Sri Lanka he suggested a hospital. They said the largest they had built abroad was a 1,000-bed one. He asked them to build him a 1,001-bedder.

Because of the pendulum nature of Sri Lankan politics he had periods of defeat and unpopularity between the mid-1950s and the 1970s, of being Opposition leader, of being in a party in ruins. He became leader of the United National Party in 1973 and Prime Minister four years later. He was the principal force in broadening the party's base, bringing lower castes into the arena, and in changing the Westminster model of democracy to a presidential one.

His ideal is to make Sri Lanka a *dharma* society, a term that might best be rendered as just. As an historian he likes to use as his guide the career and example of King Elara the just, who ruled in the Second Century BC.

"We called ourselves for a while a Socialist Democracy. Now we are styled a Democratic Socialist Republic. There is a difference. We retain socialism but democracy comes first because it is more important than socialism. As I see it, you have to be pragmatic. That is why there is press censorship under the temporary emergency in a racially tense situation I did not want to run the risk of inflammatory statements getting into the press."

His devotion to Buddhism is complete, but he has taken care to slap down clergymen who have tried to extend their influence across the divide between religion and politics.

His love of history leads him to take an enthusiastic interest in the restoration of ancient buildings. And his desire to see the Mahaweli River schemes completed lies not only in a politician's, and leader's, wish for achievement, but also in an his-

torian's wish to see a bridge between modern Sri Lanka and its ancient hydraulic civilization.

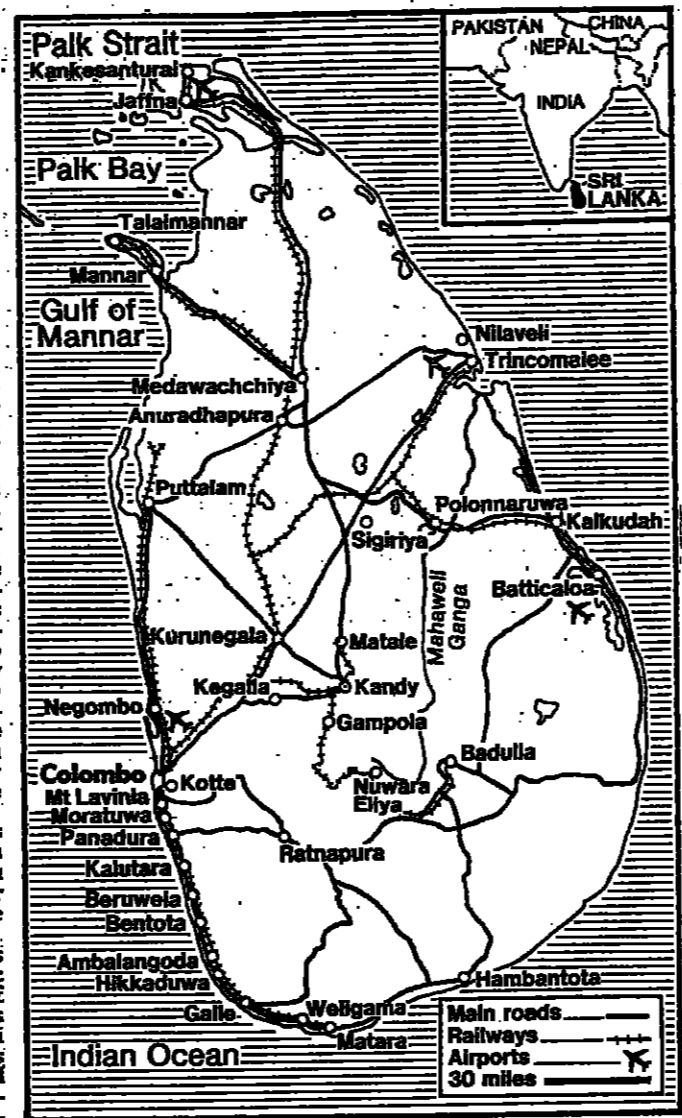
In the same way he looks forward to greeting the Queen as the last of a long line of monarchs of Ceylon, stretching back 2,500 years. "When we were a dominion she was our Queen. Now we are a republic we honour her for her place in our history."

President Jayewardene looks forward to standing in the 1984 Presidential election. He feels fit. He rises early, exercises, and sets store by his rest after lunch. He used to smoke a cigarette a day, but gave it up, and sips an occasional wine or brandy.

He is a calm-mannered man of keen humour, plainly not someone who lives on his nerves. He is unpretentious and speaks softly in unembroidered sentences. His quiet manner, however, does not disguise his air of authority, his toughness and political shrewdness. He is a man who knows the jungle.

He will be 77 when he offers himself for a second six-year term. "It is not a question of age but of health. You have to look after yourself. You have to be like a well-bred racehorse, always ready to run."

Trevor Fishlock



Tourists' eden: a happy accident

The island gem with almost everything

Arab seafarers called it Serendib. And from that, Horace Walpole coined the magical word *serendipity*, meaning "the faculty of making happy and unexpected discoveries by accident".

Today's traveller will find Sri Lanka an attractive and surprising kind of Eden. Surprising because of the variety which is packed into this tropical island — magnificent palm-fringed beaches, wildlife, exotic flowers, high country, rivers and waterfalls, and fascinating historic sites where one can see the remains of a great civilization. The ruins of monasteries, cities and canals, as well as numerous inscriptions, show that from about the third century BC to the sixteenth century AD, Sri Lanka took its place among the most advanced nations of the pre-modern world.

This cultural heritage is an important part of one's experience in Sri Lanka, so it would be wrong to regard a holiday there as simply an excuse to enjoy the beach to the exclusion of anything else. It is an island to be explored. But it is important not to take on too much. A tour which would give opportunities for lazing, taking trips back in time to ancient cities, and perhaps a visit to a tea estate in the high country would be ideal.

Because Sri Lanka experiences two monsoons, the beaches on the west and south coasts are at their best between October and March, and those on the east from March to October. The temperatures soar into the eighties at the coastal resorts. Favourites on the west and south coasts are Negombo, Mount Lavinia, Beruwela, Bentota and Hikkaduwa. Galle is famous for its old Dutch fort.

For the more energetic there is water skiing, sailing, surfing, scuba diving and deep sea fishing. Mount Lavinia is only about eight miles from the capital, Colombo, and is a favourite excursion, especially for Sunday lunch. The colonial-style Mount Lavinia hotel is on the beach, and one can get a fine view of Colombo from its terrace.

Bentota is Sri Lanka's first self-contained holiday resort, with hotels, shops, a bank and a small railway station. The Bentota Beach hotel, one of the largest in Sri Lanka,

charges from about £17 per night for a double room.

The coral gardens at Hikkaduwa are one of the main attractions for the underwater enthusiast. Shoals of multi-coloured tropical fish swim among the white coral grooves. Glass-bottomed boats are available for those who prefer to view from above the water.

Trincomalee, Nilaveli and Kalkudah, on the less developed east coast, also offer sandy beaches, a warm, calm sea, and opportunities for the underwater enthusiast. The harbour at Trincomalee is one of the largest in the world, and the town was an important British naval base during the Second World War.

"Trinco" remained a Navy town for years afterwards. Sri Lanka abounds in wildlife, with more than 350 different kinds of mammals, and more than 400 varieties of birds. Kumana and Wirawala are just two of Sri Lanka's bird sanctuaries, inhabited by stilts, barbed, flycatchers, ibis, pelicans, peacocks, parrots, devil birds, hawks, jungle fowl and stork. The island has three botanical gardens. Peradeniya, near Kandy, contains more than 4,000 species, as well as a splendid orchid house.

There is a number of national parks. The two major ones are at Wilpattu, 110 miles north of Colombo, and Ruhuna (also known as Yala), 190 miles south. Here one can see elephants, bears, sambar, buffalo, herds of deer, wild boar and monkeys. There are crocodiles in the lakes, and one also has a good chance of seeing leopards. Another sanctuary renowned for its elephant population is at Inginiyagala, 195 miles east of Colombo.

The elephant bath on a bend in the river Mahaweli near Kandy is a tourist attraction. Fame elephants are brought for a refreshing bathe by their mahouts. But beware — the mahouts can be very persistent in their demands for payment!

Tea is Sri Lanka's most important export, and the tea plantations in the lush hill country are interesting places to visit. Acres and acres of tea, with its rich green foliage, extend across the hills and reach almost to the mist-shrouded mountain tops. Narrow roads wind through gorse, streams bubble over rocks, and one sees waterfalls called Devon, St Clair and

Aberdeen by nostalgic British tea planters. Tea thrives in the mild climate, and the flavour of the leaves varies with the altitude and soil.

Nuwara Eliya, reached by the spectacular Ramboda Pass, began as a colonial hill station, and has English-style houses, a war memorial and a fine 18-hole golf course. Very close to Nuwara Eliya is Sri Lanka's highest and most isolated plateau, Horton Plains. Buddhists, Hindus and Muslims have for centuries made pilgrimages to Adam's Peak, the Sacred Mountain, which is near the town of Hatter.

Buddhist culture has flourished in Sri Lanka since the third century BC, and the island has a large number of outstanding monuments. The triangular area formed by the ancient cities of Anuradhapura, Sigiriya, Polonnaruwa and Kandy is known as the cultural triangle of Sri Lanka. Unfortunately, some of the most important monuments are decaying and are in danger of being lost. Last year, the Sri Lanka Government, with assistance from UNESCO, embarked on an ambitious programme of preservation and restoration. The programme includes six projects to be completed within five years.

Anuradhapura, the most important of the ancient cities, was the capital of Sri Lanka in about 380 BC. The city was a model of planning. The water supply came from artificial reservoirs, remains of which exist to this day. It was in the reign of King Devanampiya Tissa (250-210 BC) that Buddhism came to Sri Lanka, and Anuradhapura rose to great importance.

Polonnaruwa was the island's medieval capital, and reached its dazzling zenith in the twelfth century AD. Though ravaged by later invasions, much evidence of its old grandeur remains.

Kandy was a capital in the fourteenth century, and contains one of the most photographed buildings in the world, the Temple of the Tooth. The sacred relic, a tooth of Buddha, was smuggled into Sri Lanka during the fourth century AD. Every August, Sri Lanka's most important festival, Perahera, takes place in Kandy. The relic is honoured in a great feast of sight and sound, custom and ritual.

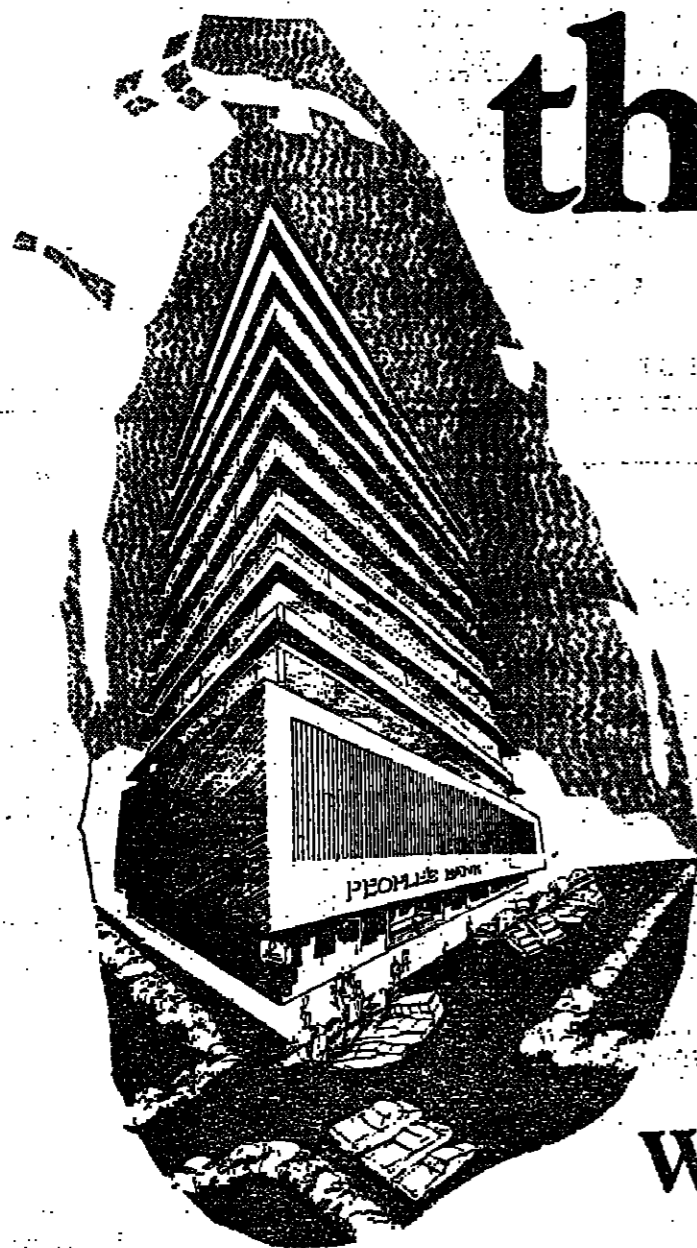
Penny Symon



President Jayewardene: "always ready to run"

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Trevor Fishlock explains the sense of anti-climax about the economy

After the celebrating, the
hangover sets in

Nothing disguises the anxiety felt in Sri Lanka today about the state of the economy. "We will have to work hard and manage harder to get out of this one," a banker in Colombo said. "We are up a gum tree at the moment."

There is disappointment because the country's economic revolution started so dramatically after the arrival of the Jayewardene Government in 1977. It more than met the hopes of the Government and of the IMF, which provided generous cushioning. There was euphoria as the economy expanded. Sri Lanka seemed like a man gulping down air, having been close to suffocating.

Before the United National Party took power, Sri Lanka had a doctrine of welfare economy. Under Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike the left, whose fragments she drew together, had been in power more than 12 years. The people's living standards were improved and the problem of rapid population growth was addressed. But once certain goals were achieved such policies had nowhere to go.

The absence of a creative approach left Sri Lanka essentially bankrupt. Unemployment was 24 per cent, the private sector was neglected and growth stagnant. Imports were artificially restricted and overseas investment discouraged. Talk of nationalization of tea plantations, and finally nationalization itself, led to a decline in planting and a fall in production of the island's most important crop. Rubber and coconut growing suffered in the same way.

The Jayewardene Govern-

ment went pell-mell for growth. Restrictive import and exchange controls were lifted and overseas investment encouraged. A free trade zone was cleared near the international airport, offering foreign companies generous tax concessions.

Resources were directed from consumption to investment, the rupee was floated and a loan of \$325m was arranged by the IMF. Universal food rationing and subsidy was stopped, although the Government continues to issue food stamps to aid half the population earning less than 300 rupees a month. (35 rupees equals £1.)

An ambitious development programme was started: a new Parliament, a promised 100,000 houses and the steel erection of the Mahaweli project. The Mahaweli is the great river of Sri Lanka, its Ganges or Nile. The early civilization of the island depended on remarkable waterworks and canals based on the river. Today new dams and tunnels are being built to advance the historic tradition.

Gigantic in scale, the project will provide the hydro-electricity the country badly needs. Power consumption is rising by 20 per cent a year and cuts are up to five hours a day. The scheme will also irrigate, and thereby populate, a great underdeveloped region.

Thirty years was the original timetable for Mahaweli. The Government is going all out to have it done by the mid-eighties.

It is the symbol of Sri Lanka's high-stakes strategy, a strategy and experiment with implications for many

Third World countries and for the IMF.

But Mahaweli is also a large part of the country's expenditure hurdle, a hurdle which Mr. Ronnie de Mel, the Finance Minister, reckons will not be crossed until 1984.

One difficulty was that the economic ground was not properly cleared. A large public sector was retained, making economic management difficult, and the tax structure was unsuitable for the revolution. There are only 91,000 taxpayers and half of those are marginal.

The performance of industrial public corporations, and of manufacturing, has been disappointing. And Sri Lanka has been heavily hit by external economic forces outside its control. Rising import and oil prices pushed inflation to an admitted 30 per cent last year (unofficially, 40 per cent); lax control of Government expenditure led to heavy bank borrowing in 1980; and there was eventually a virtual loss of control. Expenditure went a third over budget and the deficit was 70 per cent higher than estimated.

Building costs have soared, forcing the abandoning of much private building. As a small example, a bag of cement which cost eight rupees in 1975 now costs 80 rupees. The cost of one of the Mahaweli dams is now more than six times what was estimated four years ago.

In response to its backers' demands, Sri Lanka is pressing the brake hard. There is a credit squeeze; there are no new projects, and public works programmes are being cut. But the cuts are also



Private enterprise: a man traps fish in a canal near Negombo

being fought by Ministers anxious to keep pledges and unable to recognize the seriousness of their country's predicament.

Mr. de Mel cut the budget by 25 per cent this year, then by a further 10 per cent in some areas. It is not enough, and the 1982 budget will aim

for further reductions.

Inflation, now at 25 per cent, remains serious and pressure on the balance of payments will stay strong. The prices of many basic commodities are high. There is no doubt that Sri Lanka's economy will have to be managed more toughly.

On the bright side, the Mahaweli project is on target, the backers are still backing, there is some possibility of oil being found offshore. The Finance Minister even permits himself to talk of the dawning of "a golden age" after 1985. For the time being, though, Sri Lanka is gritting its teeth.

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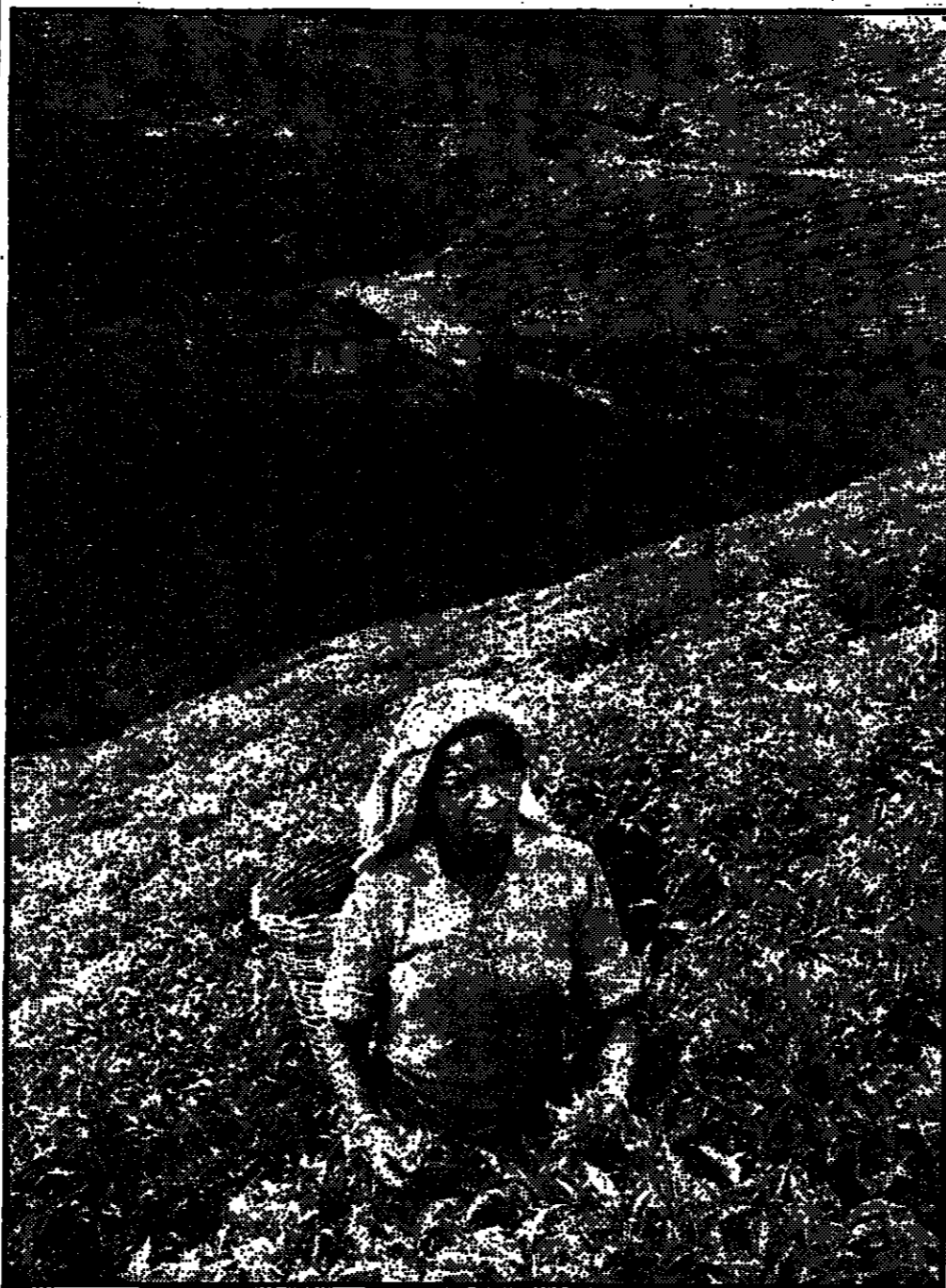
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Small takings: a tea picker at work in Nuwara Eliya

£64 million Victoria Dam and Tunnel-Sri Lanka

The Victoria Scheme is a major element of the Mahaweli River Basin Development and is situated on the upper waters of the Mahaweli Ganga in the mountainous region of south-central Sri Lanka.

Balfour Beatty Construction and Edmund Nuttall in joint venture were awarded the contract to construct the Victoria Dam and Tunnel, together with associated works.

When completed this project will nearly double the hydro-electric power generation

capacity of the country as well as vastly increasing the area of irrigated land.

A tunnel 6km long will conduct water from a gated intake at the reservoir to the power station further downstream.

The contract also includes the design and construction of a permanent township adjacent to the site.



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The illustration shows the position of the dam when completed.

The tangled roots of communal conflict

The minority who might yet break away

by a Special Correspondent

The violent events in Sri Lanka between May and August this year appalled and frightened many of the island's people.

Once again the complex and sensitive nature of the relationship between the Sinhalese majority and the Tamil minority was exposed in brutal fashion.

In several parts of the island there was rioting, arson and smashing of homes and shops. More than a dozen people were killed, victims of the latest in a series of communal spasms which have gripped the island in the past 25 years.

Although communal tension is seen as a phenomenon offering a periodic threat to social harmony, no one in the Government and no long-term observer of Sri Lanka's affairs appears to believe that the friction contains the ingredients for chaos of the most serious kind.

Rather, there is a belief that wounds can be healed, that the admitted mistakes of the past can be rectified. Whether this view is complacent, or is a confident one based on a realistic assessment and a refusal to be rattled, it is hard, and too early, to say.

Sinhalese and Tamils have coexisted in Ceylon for many hundreds of years. On the whole they have remained separate communities, except along parts of the coast. Inter-marriage has been rare and they have retained their different life styles, most notably their mutually incomprehensible languages.

It is believed that the Sinhalese began arriving about 2,500 years ago from Northern India. They are a Buddhist people, having embraced the faith in the third century BC, and Sri Lanka is a place of special sanctity for them.

The Tamils, Hindus from South India, are believed to have arrived in waves from the second century BC to the ninth century AD. Although the peoples fought from time to time, and developed differing ideas of each other, their conflict lies not in ancient history but in more recent events.

According to the 1981 census, of Sri Lanka's 14,850,000 people, 10,980,000 are Sinhalese and 1,870,000 are original Tamils, known as Ceylon Tamils. There are another 825,000 Tamils, known as Indian Tamils, who were brought over in the last century to work on the plantations.

The British ruled Ceylon as a single community and under this rule the Tamils advanced. Nineteenth-century missionaries and educators who settled in the north, where Tamils predominated, found them avid pupils.

They were diligent, persistent, thrifty, good at business, virtues which have a place in Sinhalese prejudice. Education and English enabled them to market their brainpower. Tamils made good doctors, engineers and teachers and went abroad to work. Their qualifications also enabled them to corner a disproportionate share of jobs in the colonial bureaucracy, and their ascendancy in this sector bred more resentment.



Troops during the recent state of emergency

Independence changed everything. A reordering of society began and the effects of it are being felt still.

The Sinhalese, more than seven-tenths of the population, sought to express their new identity through language and an assertion of Sinhalese nationalism. Their Ceylon was essentially a Sinhalese and Buddhist one. "Religion, language, nation" was a sentiment easily harnessed by politicians, but Tamils and Christians felt threatened.

In the 1950s, especially, Sri Lanka watered seeds of future trouble. The reordering of society seemed a proper and egalitarian concept and, of course, changes were inevitable and right. But there was political mismanagement. Prejudice was freely tapped. There was a need for people at the top with vision and a feel for reconciliation, but there were not enough of them.

Teaching through the medium of English was stopped and children began learning through Sinhala and Tamil. University and public service entry was officially manipulated to provide more places for Sinhalese. The citizenship of certain Tamils was made a matter of question. People of Dutch and Portuguese descent left the island to escape the new education system. Tamils reflected bitterly that the downgrading of English

damaged their economic chances. The first rioting to disturb Ceylon's enviable peace took place in 1956, when Sinhala was made the sole official language.

Periodic eruptions since then made urgent the need for reconciliation. Under the Jayewardene Government Tamil has been made a national language (although in practice it has been used in courts and Parliament without difficulty). University and civil service entry has been adjusted to make "positive discrimination" less of a provocation. The Government hopes that the new development councils, which permit a large measure of district autonomy, will help to defuse tensions.

But in the Tamil's northern stronghold feelings are still strong after recent violence. Officers in the predominantly Sinhalese police went on the rampage and a few Sinhalese politicians made matters worse with disgracefully headstrong speeches. The President has sacked one of them from the United National Party.

Not surprisingly there has grown a more strident call for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka. The citizenship of certain Tamils was made a matter of question. People of Dutch and Portuguese descent left the island to escape the new education system. Tamils reflected bitterly that the downgrading of English

partition to be a preposterous notion. The Sinhalese are furious at the publicity gained by Tamil activists abroad and believe that expatriate emotion is causing trouble rather than smoothing it.

The Tamil plantation workers, who have inevitably been victims in the strife, are not enthusiastic about *celam*. Where would they work in a separate state? In any case their position is complicated and uncertain. More than 250,000 Tamils have been repatriated to India under an agreement. Others await either repatriation or the granting of Sri Lankan citizenship.

Meanwhile the relationship between majority and minority is made more tangled by rivalry between northern Tamils and the lower castes among the Sinhalese, who are being given a larger share of the economic and political cake. There is too the terrorism that has been unleashed.

At the time of writing, the state of emergency which quietened Sri Lanka after the latest troubles is being lifted and the Government is having "peace talks" with the Tamil Party. The communal problem in Sri Lanka is not at all simple. Its shades and contradictions, let alone its dangers, make it a singular test of the conciliatory powers of the leadership.

Education and the jobs market

A case of making too many square pegs

"If you advertise for a bank clerk in this country you will get 10,000 replies. If you advertise for a gardener you will get four, and three of them will be useless."

The bank executive who told me this was describing the paradoxes of the job market in Sri Lanka and how the education system, *vis à vis* the economy, is rather like the relationship between a square pin plug and a round hole socket.

Yet in many eyes Sri Lanka has an enviable education structure. Tuition is free and, for the past two years, so have been books. The country has 9,700 schools in its 25,000 square miles, a school population of 3.2 million (of a population of 14.85 million), a pupil-teacher ratio of 22 to one, and a literacy rate of 90 per cent in younger age groups, 83 per cent overall.

Sri Lanka has had a strong education tradition ever since the mission schools started in the early nineteenth century. The British colonial service bred generations of educated, Colombo-oriented people. Education led many people to well-paid jobs overseas as teachers, doctors and engineers.

The community has always attached great importance to white collar jobs in the Government service. Today Sri Lanka does itself a disservice by turning out far more would-be administrators and office workers than there are desks. Unemployment among the well-educated is high. The civil service has become swollen, and the

underworked and educated are inclined to insist on perpetuation of the system.

However, as the educated people scramble for jobs the country is desperately short of skilled men.

There are not enough managers, support staff, foremen and team leaders. There is a dearth of engineers, masons, welders, machinists, carpenters, plumbers and typists.

The matter is made worse because many with skill go off to make their money in the Middle East. Those who remain in the country can command high salaries.

The Government responded to the flood of public service job applicants by raising entry standards. The schools then put more emphasis on examinations. A Government review of education says that the aspects of education which contribute to the development of character have been eroded by the "crippling influence of exams".

Attempts to introduce education based more on the community's requirements failed. Half the people work on the land. But parents tended to reject craft and technical education and the office in Colombo remained a magnet.

One effect of this is that many parents and children perceive education to be of value only to the relative high fliers. About half of the school population drops out before reaching GCE level.

Reforms now in the pipeline aim to provide more of the technical education the

country needs. It is hoped that the reforms will succeed as more people become aware of education's part in broad economic development.

Another important reform on the way is a new emphasis on the teaching of English. In the education revolution of the mid 1950s, the national languages, Sinhala and Tamil, replaced English as mediums of instruction. English became a subject. The change was intended to promote identity and indigenous culture, to throw off a foreign yoke and to make schooling more egalitarian by removing the privileges enjoyed by the English education.

The results, some say, have been disastrous. The standard of English has fallen considerably. The President himself admits that, as far as English is concerned, "it was a revolution that went too far".

Schools are failing to give any children the sort of English they need for their chosen careers. Young people arrive at university unable to read vital source books which are available only in English. They have to rely on lecture notes. It is one reason why universities have failed to become communities of excellence.

Children from poorer homes suffer because better-off parents can afford private English lessons and give their children an edge on the jobs market. There is a rapid growth of tutoring establishments where children cram English in their spare time.

Best of all, in the view of some parents, are the private schools where English is given a more important place in the curriculum. One school principal teaches English in periods ostensibly set aside for music.

The number, and standard, of English language teachers has fallen considerably. The country ought to have 1,200 teachers of English, but has only half that number. The dilution of teaching makes standards even worse.

The plan now is to arrest decline by concentrating teaching of English in selected schools spread across the country. In a country with such a large agricultural base, and which is experiencing an economic revolution, there is clearly a need for a rationalization of education. The system has been over-academic for too long. But the demand for a certain quality of education remains strong, and the private sector is being allowed to expand to meet a need the Government cannot afford.

There is also an important political dimension. The Tamil minority feels discriminated against in university entry, although Government manipulation has now been made fairer. Tamils, who found advancement through English-medium education, still feel robbed by the relegation of English to a subject. "If the Government gave us back English teaching it would hear no more wild talk of partition", a teacher said.

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BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Tremors from the statistics

Financial markets had been awaiting yesterday's September trade figures with more than usual interest. These were the figures that were going to show just how great had been the deterioration in our foreign trade balance since trade figures went off the air at the end of February. In turn, this news — or so it was hoped — would remove some of the recent uncertainty from markets and offer a pointer as to how sterling and domestic interest rates might behave over the rest of the autumn.

In the event, the domestic response to the figures was fairly muted, except on foreign exchange markets where sterling slowly slid away to finish 2.1 cents lower at \$1.82. But while the modest surplus (£13m) on visible trade was, if anything, rather better than some City forecasts, the composition of the figures is hardly reassuring.

What we do not know at this stage is whether the September figures exaggerate the trend, or, indeed, what the path of the trend has been since the late spring. Has it been gradually upwards, or has it been rapidly accelerating over the past couple of months? Similarly, one might well ask whether the much more modest, but none the less welcome, improvement in export volume has followed a similar or totally different path from that of imports.

This is clearly a gap that it would be nice to fill in. In fact, by the time a reasonable sketch is eventually completed, it will probably be of strictly historic interest only. Markets will now have to wait on the October figures for more guidance. But in the meantime the further sharp reminder of the United Kingdom propensity for imports may not bring much comfort to a currency so susceptible to massive capital outflows.

Encouraged by a spate of tax concessions and the introduction of "put options" this summer, more stockbrokers are eyeing the traded options market. Scrimgeour Kemp-Gee will make their debut next month and Greenwell are looking closely at the opportunities. While the market's detractors remain firmly unconvinced that London's traded options will ever provide the bonanza of Chicago, Scrimgeour expects the market to take off rapidly in the next year. Of course, that is what the protagonists have been hoping every year since the market began in April, 1978, when the number of contracts on a good day was 1,000. It was not until "puts" appeared this year that the average daily level rose from about 1,000 to 2,000 contracts now. The market's supporters continue to argue that even Chicago had a slow, if less shaky, start.

Guinness Peat

A house divided

The public airing given over the last fortnight to Guinness Peat's internal dissensions could not have come at a worse time, with the group about to announce a big acquisition in conjunction with its United States money-broking side Noonan, Astley and Pearce which it clearly sees as an important step towards transforming the shape of the company.

Mr Dell and the professional managers around him have increasingly wanted to reduce the dependence on commodities and provided more reliable and stable sources of profits which has plainly not suited Lord Kissin's more buccannery approach. The latest profits setback must have concentrated the mind wonderfully and the conclusion seems to have been reached that certain parts of the group are not pulling their weight. The manufacturing and processing side is being tidied up but the biggest headache lies with the Guinness Mahon banking arm which is not paying its way in group terms. Some form of joint partnership relieving Guinness Peat of the financing burden would seem to be the ideal solution and developments along these lines could come quickly.

Meanwhile, the amount of share buying in Swiss nominee names has touched a raw enough nerve for the board to ask for the identities behind these accounts to identify themselves which may lead to disenfranchisement if they continue to keep mum. The buying may only be speculative at this stage but the news has been exposed in a way which has prompted bids in many similar cases. Clearly, the present management could not count on Lord Kissin's backing which may or may not be important depending on what support he can muster amongst shareholders.

Paterson, Zochonis

Caution on Nigeria

Given the depth of political and trading knowledge in West Africa spanning almost a century, the warning from Paterson, Zochonis that current profit figures are unlikely to match the record £29.5m a 35 per cent gain just announced should be taken seriously. Nigeria is without doubt its largest single profit earner and it is trading conditions there which form the basis of Paterson's caution.

The grocer turned fridge manufacturer is investing heavily in white goods manufacturing in Nigeria: £25m last year and the same again this year, but although this diversification has provided a large bulk of the 20 per cent sales increase to £266m, little has come through to profits. Full benefits here will not be felt for three years.

Clearly alert to suggestions that Nigeria will at some stage tighten its grip on foreign companies, Paterson is funding capital expansion locally. In January it raised £18m with a loan stock on the Nigeria stock exchange topped up with borrowings from Nigeria banks. Although associates are as at 50 per cent geared, the group's balance sheet is clear free showing cash and short-term deposits a third higher at £51m.

Bolstering profits this year was the performance of Imperial Leather group, Cussons, part of Patersons since 1976 and in which it has ploughed £8m into UK factories in the past two years. The bottom line has also been helped by a £12.3m write-back of deferred tax and profit retained rose from £8.3m to 25.8m. But unless a greater spread of geographical earning potential is achieved, Nigeria will continue to be the barometer of its fortunes. The stock market took caution on board yesterday with the voting shares closing 2p up at 120p and the "A", 7p ahead at 123p. June's scrip issue and a 23 per cent increased total dividend still leaves it one of the lowest yields in the sector, but that should be enough to persuade shareholders to ride out any storm this year, given the group's impressive management record.

Reardon Smith

Bid possibilities

The half year results of Reardon Smith, which runs a small fleet of bulk carriers from a base in Cardiff, are about what could have been expected given the collapse in freight rates. For the six months to September the group managed to produce virtually unchanged profits of £641,000, and because of the availability of capital allowances it is unlikely that any tax will be payable for the half year. But the figures were helped by the strength of the dollar against the pound which to a certain extent disguised the deterioration in trading conditions.

The company has no illusions about how difficult conditions have become and it wisely gives warning that the position will remain extremely serious for the rest of the year. So there must be the possibility of Reardon making a fairly hefty loss in the second half to the point it might only just break even for the full year.

Why the trade figures are so worrying

David Blake

Yesterday's trade figures are among the most puzzling economic statistics published in recent years. Both imports and exports seem to have grown significantly during the six months March to August — for which we have no real information because of the Civil Service strike.

If the September figures establish a new trend we are set for sharply higher imports and slightly higher exports than we saw in the early part of the year.

The obvious explanations for the growth of imports would also suggest that we ought to be seeing falling exports. So by their very nature the figures carry a warning that this month above all we have to be careful not to read too much into one month's statistics.

That said, they make fascinating and worrying reading for anyone interested in the future of the economy. The volume of imports of all kinds went up markedly between the spring months and September. If erratic items are excluded, the volume of imports in September was above the levels recorded in 1979, just before the recession hit.

This is not simply a matter of industry loading up with raw materials for a recovery. There have been bigger increases in imports of manufactures than there have been in the growth of raw materials imports. Consumer goods imports were up by

about 20 per cent from their level in the first quarter of the year and capital goods by 35 per cent.

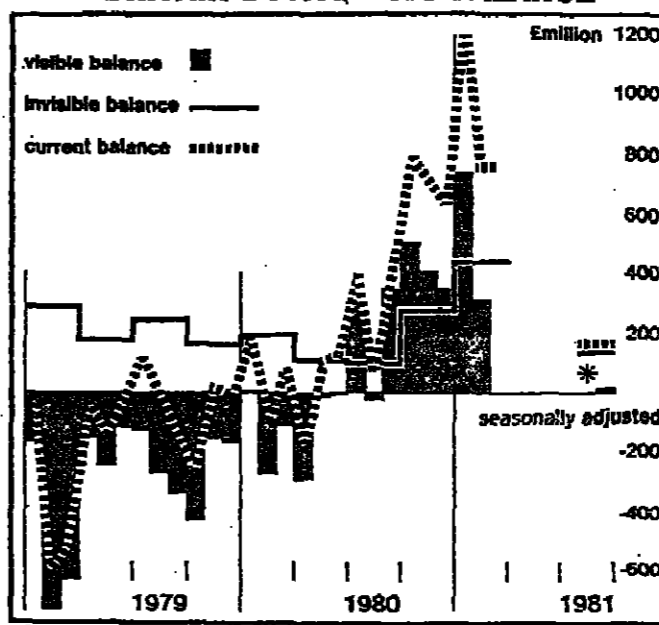
There are two obvious kinds of explanation for this. One is that the economy was expanding rapidly in the months leading up to September, sucking in imports in the process. All previous booms have shown a big upsurge in imports; the trade figures could be interpreted as telling us that such a boom is under way now.

The trouble with that is that there is no sign of where the goods are going. They are certainly not being bought in the high streets, where retail sales are weakening. So the import recovery must be going to build up stocks in the country's warehouses.

That suggests that stocks are being built up very fast. But this in turn does not fit easily with the figures we have from manufacturing industry in Britain, whose output is not growing particularly rapidly, indeed may not even be growing at all, though it has stopped falling.

The conclusion to which this leads is that any recovery in stocks, which the Government has looked to as one of the driving forces for recovery over the next few months, will be met heavily by imports instead of British goods. Worse, when importers find that they are faced with weak British demand and high interest rates they may want to run down their stocks again, perhaps putting further

BRITAIN'S PAYMENTS BALANCE



Series resumed

pressure on the British market.

That all suggests that after a fairly buoyant third quarter, we may see renewed weakness at the end of the year before a new upturn next year. It also suggests the second possible explanation for the rise in imports, which is that the loss in competitiveness caused by the overvaluation of the pound is at last starting to come home to roost, with British goods being priced out of the United Kingdom market. That solution makes perfect

sense. Unfortunately, it flies right against the evidence from the other side of our trading account. It is not simply imports which have probably risen over the past six months. So, too, have exports, not just in value (that could be explained by price rises), but in volume.

We know that the world economy has been pretty stagnant throughout most of 1981, with trade growth at 2 per cent a year or less. Yet the volume of exports in September was up by more

than 5 per cent compared with the level in the first two months of the year. That means that after nearly three years in which the pound rose sharply and Britain became the least price competitive country in the world, our share of world trade actually grew between February and September. That does not seem to point to industry being unable to compete; and to that extent it is inconsistent with the import figures.

Could the September figures be just a freak? There is obviously a problem when you start counting something that you have not counted for many months. It may be that the import and the export figures for the month are inflated because the authorities have accidentally included in them something which should have been recorded earlier.

It may be that it is one of those freak months, though it is very unlikely that the figures could deviate from the trend by more than about 8 per cent.

The jury will have to stay out on these questions until we get a full run of figures back to when the strike began. But the admittedly very tentative conclusion which seems to follow from yesterday's figures is that the days of our trade surplus are now sharply numbered. A current account deficit by the end of 1982 now looks a distinct possibility.

Will the door be slammed on UK insurers?

An initiative is under way to lift the restrictions on the EEC market for big industrial and commercial insurance risks. If it falls through, British insurers may have to wait another five years for a further chance to get into Europe.

suddenly elevated to the status of a political issue.

The reason was that the Dutch took over their six month's occupancy of the EEC presidency. Holland is the only EEC member state, apart from Britain, which has an extensive and long-standing tradition of services in the Community. Its tenure of the presidency, followed straight away by that of Britain, raised hopes that progress might at last be achieved in the insurance field.

But Monday's meeting showed that a great many problems remain. The directive as it stands is a drafter's nightmare of square brackets and alternative forms of words. The simple objective of Article 59 has been lost in a welter of proposed exceptions, exemptions and weak enabling provisions.

While Britain and Holland are keen to see the non-life services directive enter Community law, the others are lukewarm to hostile, their reasons ranging from concern over the protection afforded to consumers under any liberalization, as in West Germany, to fears that the directive might mean the loss of a significant source of taxation, as in France. But perhaps the overriding consideration in most member states is a feeling that, as things have worked well enough to date, why change them now?

The British Government and Mr Christopher Tugendhat, the Commissioner responsible for financial affairs, have been stressing that freedom of services is a right under the Treaty. The services sector is also an area in

which the United States is mounting a campaign for worldwide liberalisation and the continuation of a dirigiste regime in the EEC is likely to create friction across the Atlantic and reduce the European industry's ability to meet any eventual competitive challenges from outside the EEC.

Lloyd's of London and other British insurance organizations have been actively lobbying the Government and the Commission to stiffen their resolve to push the directive through, but it is now little more than two months before Britain hands over the EEC presidency to Belgium, which has one of the most restrictive insurance markets in the EEC.

Hopes for a breakthrough rest largely on persuading the West Germans to support the liberalising directive. The German position is distinctly contradictory. On the one hand, the Bonn government likes to pose as the defender of the free market economy in Europe and is the scourge of intra-EEC barriers to visitors, trade, but it also defends one of the most restrictive supervisory authorities to exercise control over an EEC insurance industry.

The reasons are partly historical. Germany's bankruptcy after the First World War ushered in a period of

financial crisis from which the insurance companies were not spared. A tight control over the industry was justified after the Second World War to help stimulate the growth of a property-owning democracy.

But the rebuilding of German economic and political life is now a long way in the past. Furthermore, the present non-life directive is not intended to liberalise the mass risk market, where the average consumer's interests lie, but merely that for large industrial, commercial and professional risks — areas where better and cheaper services could be expected to benefit West German industry.

These points must be known to both Dr Otto Graf Lambsdorff, the West German economics minister and the most prominent free marketeer in the Bonn cabinet, and Herr Eberhard von Brauchitsch, who has been named as the next president of the West German federation of industry, the BDI.

Graf Lambsdorff was a member of the board of the Colonia insurance group before becoming economics minister. The Flick industrial group, in which Herr von Brauchitsch is a managing partner, recently took control of the Gerling insurance concern, a major insurer of

industrial risks, and was given favourable tax treatment by the government because its investment was deemed to be especially beneficial for West Germany's industrial structure.

Even if the West Germans can be persuaded to back the initiative, a host of problems remain. The French have so far shown little willingness to compromise on the tax issue, while the Italians were reported to have been extremely obstructive on Monday, arguing that there was no need to change a system that had worked to their own satisfaction for years.

The question of the non-life services directive will probably be raised by Mrs Thatcher at the next EEC summit in London at the end of November. Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, has made it clear that he is not interested in a diluted reform that brings no real benefits — a stance that has the backing of Mr Tugendhat.

If the directive does fail to be adopted during the British presidency it will most probably stay on ice until the Dutch turn comes round again at the beginning of 1986. In that case the only action that could be taken towards liberalizing this sector of the EEC market for services would be to fight a case based on the treaty provisions before the European Court.

But for that eventually a committed industrialist with strong financial resources and plenty of determination is needed.

Peter Norman

Business Diary: Sir Raymond rules OK?

That novice in the art of staging national conferences, the Confederation of British Industry, is to rewrite the stage directions for its fifth annual beano at Eastbourne next month.

Having so far failed to come up with a formula sufficiently different from the party political get-togethers to keep the delegates happy and the television audience awake, the CBI has decided to do away with formal resolutions.

Going, too, are the panoply of heavyweight speakers who used to introduce and wind up these debates.

In their place CBI president Sir Raymond Pennock means to bring forward more speakers from the floor — those grey little men in the appalling suits who bound up to the rostrum for a brief moment of electronic glory.

That should keep the delegates happy, but what of the television audience? Sir Raymond's idea is to have debates which the platform (ie, Sir Raymond) will pronounce to be worthy or not of a resolution.

Last year's conference made a bigger splash than the CBI either expected or indeed wanted, when the new director-general, Sir Terence Beckett, made that "bare knuckle" speech.

Illness will keep Sir Terence from Eastbourne this year, but another attraction is to be an eve of conference "Any Questions" featuring, understandably, Sir Geoffrey Howe and, inevitably, Shirley Williams — if she doesn't get the wrong train.

Sour grapes

It was grim news from Louis Latour, the leading Burgundy wine producer, at his annual tasting in Skinner's Hall yesterday. "We have finished harvesting, but in practical terms the 1981 wines scarcely exist," he said.

Senior members of his family, casting their minds back in search of a similarly short harvest, could not remember a worse since 1933 — when a plague of caterpillars struck.

Latour's earnest advice to burgundy lovers is to buy the 1979 vintage, itself light and not outstanding, while they could, the 1978 being already virtually exhausted and the 1980s very poor indeed.

With inflation raging in France, he says, prices must rise, although he gloomily acknowledged that increasing competition must be expected from the booming wineries of California. Unlike many French wine-producers, Latour has no wish to make transatlantic investments.

"Land prices are falling in Burgundy itself, with the recession," he says, "but if we were to think of buying more now it would be further south in France, where the sun is more reliable."

The 1981 crop, Latour says, was the victim of an unprecedented series of climatic mishaps, which whittled it away bit by bit.

"I knew it would be no good," he says, "when I went picking blackberries, of which I am very fond, a month before the harvest. If the blackberries are poor, the grapes never prosper."



"May I, for your own sakes, suggest that you confine your adoption of Japanese ideas to the Acclaim?"

A fast buck?

The nattering nabobs on Wall Street who remain stubbornly sceptical of President Reagan's counter-inflation strategy can now point to a further alarming straw in the wind.

Washington is investing in a brand-new high speed printing press for the Bureau of Engraving and Printing to churn out bank-notes even faster. And the web press has been ordered from Germany, a country which took the lead in high-speed currency production during the hyperinflation of 1920-23.

The press is twice as fast as the models now in service, producing 512,000 notes an hour, as against 256,000. The prototype costs \$1.9m (£1.1m), but this is chicken feed compared with the press's capacity. Printing \$100 bills it

could pay for itself in two minutes and 27 seconds flat.

Printing \$10,000 notes it could pay off the national debt of \$993,000m in eight days and one hour, 55 minutes and 12 seconds.

If the creditors prefer to be paid with smaller bills, say \$10 ones, the press could retire the national debt in 22 years. It would take 220 years to finish the job with singles.

A Bill to permit streamlining the production of \$1 bills was introduced the other day at the United States Treasury's behest, but was opposed by the Republican Congressmen for Texas, Mr Ron Paul, who supports a return to the gold standard.

Contract, entente

The Department of Industry is redrafting the contracts of state industry board members as they fall due for renewal, to bring them into line with those in private industry.

This is due to the Tories' wish to see the nationalized industries should look, as well as be, more market-oriented.

First in line is the British Steel Corporation, whose chairman, Ian MacGregor, was appointed last summer for three years under a novel and controversial transfer deal related to his performance in turning the industry round from record losses.

Among features being introduced in the new contracts is a six-month notice period for termination of employment and specification of the number of board meetings from which directors can absent themselves only with board approval.

These wheezes may go some way towards explaining why Bob Scholey, the burly chief operating officer of the BSC, is at present working for the BSC without a contract. His previous five-year term of office ended on September 9, and though he has been offered a further three-years, there has so far been no announcement about a reappointment from Industries Secretary Patrick Jenkin.

MacGregor is keen to keep Scholey and the Yorkshire-born steelmaker, who earlier this month celebrated his fifty-ninth birthday, would like to stay. He says that working alongside MacGregor (57) has made him feel ten years younger.

Given the Government's difficulties in attracting people to top positions in the nationalized industries — let alone keeping them — the silence surrounding Scholey's reappointment is particularly deafening.

Yesterday, as if you hadn't noticed, was press day at the Motor fair. One hack who turned up at Earls Court was unusual in that he did not drink and that he actually wanted to buy a car. Managing to raise his voice above the champagne-induced hubbub, he asked after a Fiat Mirafiori. This threw the Motor fair out of gear. A hasty search turned up only one key and that was used only for opening the back seat door of the desired car. As they say in the newspaper trade, the hack made an excuse and left.

Ross Davies

Link House Publications PLC

Increased profits despite launch costs of new publications

Mr. G. C. Burt, Chairman, reports further progress in the year to June 30 1981

* Pre-tax profits £4,540,000 up £338,000 on 1980, after launch costs of £458,000 on new titles.

* Strong balance sheet and healthy cash flow.

* Total dividend increased 19% to 10p per share.

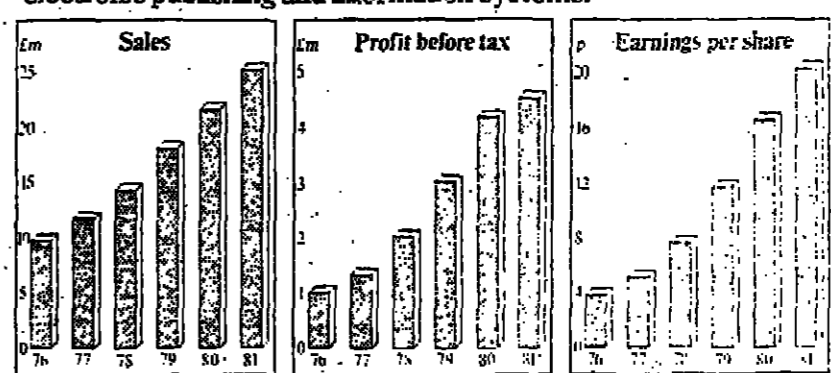
* Directors hopeful of continued growth in current year.

Exchange and Mart Publishing had another successful year.

Link House Magazines invested heavily in new publishing projects including Breaker and Rio magazines.

Blandford Books was affected by world-wide economic recession; substantial improvement expected in current year.

Link House Communications continued its expansion in electronic publishing and information systems.



For a copy of the Annual Report please write to The Secretary, Link House Publications PLC, Robert Rogers House, New Orchard, Poole, Dorset, BH15 1LU.

Oils lead sustained rally

New York, Oct. 20.—Stocks closed higher and analysts attributed the gains primarily to technical considerations.

trade figures
and corrected as

REGIONAL

This table is published on Wednesday and Saturday

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Football

Liverpool may find a spacious stage suits ruthless desire

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Amsterdam, Oct 20

Only once before have Liverpool, the old ambassadors of the continent, visited the Netherlands in the European Cup. That was 15 years ago during their second campaign when they were down heavily to Ajax and drew the return to go out by an aggregate of 7-3 in the second round. Tomorrow they meet the new Dutch masters, AZ 67 Alkmaar, at the same stage of the competition.

Liverpool, the holders and contenders for the fifth time, have all but the departed Clements available from last season's triumphant side. The one doubt concerns Alan Kennedy, a relatively fresh name in Europe, before last season's run, they had appeared only twice and even then had won only two games—both against Red Boys Differdange, whom they beat 15-1 on aggregate in the UEFA Cup final 1977.

If they beat Liverpool, however, they will step out confidently from the shadows of their glorious past. For a start, they have chosen to move the match from its normal venue, where their average crowd last season was less than 10,000, to the national stadium, De Kuip.

Ajax made the same decision last month for their first round tie against Tottenham Hotspur in the Cup Winners' Cup and it cost them dearly. The atmosphere merely inspired the likes of

replace him, they are lying fourth. Mr Paisley drew over during the weekend to see them lose 4-2 at Feyenoord.

Well, with 20 goals, was Alkmaar's leading scorer last season and they have since also lost Nygaard, a Danish international who contributed 14 from midfield, with a serious knee injury. Those that remain, including Hovenkamp, Tol and Kist, three Dutch internationals, will be all top players in the narrowest of margins in the UEFA Cup final last May.

Alkmaar, who beat the Norwegian champions, Start Kristiansund, in the first round, is a relatively fresh name in Europe. Before last season's run, they had appeared only twice and even then had won only two games—both against Red Boys Differdange, whom they beat 15-1 on aggregate in the UEFA Cup final 1977.

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Alan Kennedy, Liverpool's hero against Real Madrid in May, could miss tonight's match.

Rovers turn the corner too late for Cooper

Terry Cooper, the former England, Leeds, United, and Middlesbrough full back, has been sacked as player-manager of Rovers. The contract, between Mr Cooper and the club, was for a year, but the decision was made to sack him.

Mr Cooper said: "I am very disappointed that I am being sacked. I would have liked to have stayed at Rovers for a year, but I am not a quitter."

Rovers are considering an approach to Bobby Gould to fill the vacancy. Mr Gould, assistant manager at Aldershot and formerly assistant to Geoff Hurst at Chelsea, is a former Rovers player. He turned down a job at Eastville before Mr Cooper was appointed in April last year.

Mr Gould said last night that he would apply for the job if it was advertised. Rovers have appointed Ron Gilling, their club doctor, who has been in charge of the club's medical staff since 1974, as caretaker manager. But Rovers' chairman, Graham Holmes, said: "Mr Gilling will probably only be in charge for three or four matches before a permanent manager is appointed."

Mr Cooper is to receive £12,000 compensation. Mr Cooper, who covers from Bristol City in 1979 as a player-coach and was appointed manager in April last year. The club was relegated from the second division last year but after a good start to the season, they have slipped in recent matches. Mr Cooper, who has been in charge of the club since last year, said he has no immediate plans for the future.

The West Bromwich Albion chairman and centre half, John Wile, has resigned as coach at The Hawthorns but will continue as captain.

John Wile, who was appointed player-coach by Albion's manager, Ronnie Allen, at the start of the season, said he did not feel he had been able to support the manager in the way a coach should, because of my responsibilities as a player, skipper and my testimonial commitments.

It is a decision I have reached reluctantly but it is in the best interests of the club.

Mr Allen, who is hoping to appoint a new coach before the end of the season, said he was not prepared to buy the Dutch international defender, Martin Jol, from Twente Enschede. The fee is in the region of £250,000.

Gerry Francis has been transfer-listed by Queen's Park Rangers. "It's for a collection of reasons that I'm not prepared to go into," said Rangers' manager Terry Venables after talks with the former England captain.

Francis, 28, is in his second spell at Loftus Road. He has made only four first team appearances this season.

Monday's results

Third division: Brentford (0) 0, Southend (0) 1, 5-0.

Fourth division: Peterborough (1) 3, 1-0.

Stockport (2) 2, Bradford (2) 3, 5-0.

FA Cup: Third qualifying round: North Shields 1, Spennorth United 5.

FA Youth Cup: Second qualifying round: Maidenhead 4, Molesey 3 (after extra time).

Southern Premier League: Southern division: Chesham 4, Thane United 0.

Northern Premier League: Northern division: 1st round: 1-0.

Football League: 1st round: 1-0.

Rugby Union: Bath 6, Bristol 19.

Bayern set to follow their national trend

West Germany's currently Europe's most successful football nation, will tonight be looking to Bayern Munich to lead their challenge in the European club competitions. Bayern face Benfica in the first round of the UEFA Cup.

The West German national side are the reigning European champions and Bayern Munich are the favourites for the world crown in Spain next year. Last week their next generation of footballers won the World Cup, beating Argentina 4-0 in the final in Sydney.

Bayern are the principal West German club, having won 20 of 30 ties in Europe's three club competitions and look well equipped to record yet another triumph in the UEFA Cup.

Benfica, one of the legendary names of the trophy's past, could be the first leg in Lisbon. The goalkeeper, Beto, a midfield player, defender, Pimenta, and another midfielder, Sheu, are also doubtful.

Another attractive match is in prospect in Brussels, where the Belgian champions, Anderlecht, meet Juventus.

The Italian club's coach, Giovanni Trapattoni, said on arrival that Juventus would not play a defensive game, but Anderlecht will do well to build any sort of first-line lead.

Anderlecht suffered a double setback when two internationals, Rens and Coeck, had to pull out because of injury. The loss of the inventive Coeck could be crucial, because the Italian's international defence of Zoff, Gentile, Scirea and Cabrini is one of the tightest in Europe. Juventus will form the backbone of the Italian World Cup side in Spain next year.

CSKA Sofia, who ended Nottingham Forest's hopes of a third successive European Cup triumph last year, should be altogether more powerful for Glenoran in Bulgaria.

The Bulgarian army team, who beat Forest 1-0 home and away in the first round, are a regular for the trophy's past, could be the first leg in Lisbon. The goalkeeper, Beto, a midfield player, defender, Pimenta, and another midfielder, Sheu, are also doubtful.

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Aberdeen asked for effort to finish the job

The Aberdeen manager, Alex Ferguson, will ask his players to channel three years of European experience into tonight's match against Arge Pitești, of Romania, in the second round of the UEFA Cup.

The Aberdeen side, who are attempting to reach the third round of a European competition for the first time in their history.

It will not be easy, admitted Ferguson. The responsibility lies with the players to fall back on all the experience they have gathered in recent years.

They are top of their league and will prove very difficult to give away a goal which would count double.

The Aberdeen side for tonight's first leg shows only one change from Saturday, when they beat St. Mirren 2-1. With the international defender, Alex McLeish, reinstated in the back four after injury, 37-year-old Neale Cooper moves into midfield after performing admirably as a stop-gap central defender. This means there is no place for another manager.

He had asked to see the chairman, Jim Gregory, but had received a message from him that there was no discussion to be had. "Although my resignation could not have been forced by the club, I decided I could not continue to be associated with a football club run in an autocratic way and for that point of principle I resigned."

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East need not hold too many fears for Villa

From Norman Fox, Football Correspondent, East Berlin, Oct 20

After a gentle introduction to European football with a first round tie against Valur Reykjavik, Aston Villa are about to discover whether they can survive the heat of a match in the east, hard against the Berlin Wall itself.

Dynamo Berlin, their second round opponents, are the sort of team that Villa will find hard to play. They are experienced, dislike playing in a hostile atmosphere, and have a strong defensive back line.

For Villa, the match will be a test of their defensive back line. They will need to be at their best to survive the heat of a match in the east, hard against the Berlin Wall itself.

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Blush of a new dawn in the British game

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

It may be an illusion but there seems to be the faint blush of a new dawn in British tennis. The Lawn Tennis Association have followed Wimbledon's example by displaying an avuncular tolerance for changes alien to their conservative traditions.

The Davis Cup team reached the semi-final round for the second time in four years. The women's scene looks more competitive than it has done for years.

Such thoughts were prompted yesterday when Anne Hobbs, of Cheshire, aged 22, beat Virginia Ruzici, seeded fourth, by 6-5, 6-3, in the first round of the Brighton Centre. Four months ago Miss Hobbs was the obvious challenger to Susan Barker and Virginia Wade.

But Joanna Durie, of Bristol, a year younger, has since reached the last 16 of the Wimbledon and United States championships (Miss Hobbs might have done the same had her draw at Finsbury Park been similarly kind) and has been preferred to Miss Hobbs in Britain's team for next month's Federation Cup competition in Tokyo.

That irked Miss Hobbs ("I was bitterly disappointed" because she has improved her own world ranking in the last few months) but she said yesterday, having just completed one of the best wins of her career.

Miss Ruzici, ranked ninth in the world, was the defending champion in this tournament. She has recently looked vulnerable and anxious, but she is not. But she will be seen that a women's grand prix tournament would be a new item of unusual interest.

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An old score is settled

Melbourne, Oct 20.—Vitas Gerulaitis, the defending champion, avenged his first-round defeat by the Australian, Brad Drewitt, in the Australian Open tennis tournament, by winning 6-1, 6-0, 6-1.

Gerulaitis, who was seeded 12th, won the match in 45 minutes, the fastest of his career. He had lost to Drewitt in the first round of the 1979 Wimbledon tournament.

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Blues of an earlier vintage called to the hundred-year banquet

but has no intention of missing the dinner.

"Mr. Spence stressed yesterday that the dinner provided a great opportunity for "social" old friends — and he may have seen each other in a long time. "We believe," he said, "that we can make it a spectacular success."

It will be a dinner with the traditional with of Blues adjacent to those they played with and against. No doubt David Marques will be alongside his old England colleagues — John Curran, John J. I. Jones, and the late Colville, still owes him £200. Oldwyn Braca with his old Oxford half-back-partner, M. J. K. Smith and, reviving memories of a remarkable season in 1960, by Mr. John Kendall-Carpenter and J. V. Smith.

There are plans for the production of a 36-page souvenir programme with a semi-stuff cover and an attractive design. The largest of its kind produced at a rugby match in these islands. It will sell for 50p, a most reasonable amount in the time of money by Mr. The House from diversities.

Mr. Spence reports, "We have been staggering, and the revenue — even if the universities can't have all of it — will be invaluable. The first and the second attraction a crowd such as we used to see in the years after the war."

Two Australian forwards drop out with injuries

division, and to extend a pack whose skills and cohesion—following a disappointing performance at Leicester—will be closely monitored by pundits in both camps. By all accounts the Oxford forwards were quite promisingly against Richmond last weekend.

Andrew Bibby, a Canadian international who played against Canada the last time, has returned from his country's tour of South America and now appears on the Oxford wing. From an Australian standpoint, the constant anxiety about the fitness of their senior, scrum half, John Hipwell, throws the spotlight once more on the performance of his understudy, Tony Parker. And I dare say that most of their forwards may feel that by going really well in the performance of his understudy they must be in the running for a place in their side to meet the North at Gosforth. The line-jumpers especially have something to prove.

men recalled

full back Chris Archer, and the Bank of England forward Simon Parr plays his first full game for the county.

Oxfordshire are without the experienced prop forward Ian Hedges, who has been called up to play for Buckinghamshire on the Southern Bypass ground. The Banbury captain is serving a month's suspension for a high tackle in a recent club match and his place is taken by Martin Hobbley, who makes his first appearance in the second half of The New Year.

For Gloucestershire, Mark Taylor, the Wasps captain, is called up by Middlesex for the London Group.

There is a change of captain in the Tipton academy in Surrey at Richmond. Mark Taylor comes in at centre for Mike Greenhagh, who switches to full back in place of Nigel Rea.

Ron Wilson and Ian George form a new half back partnership, and Mark Williams, stand-off, is the victor over Herefordshire, switches to wing.

The Rosslyn Park flank forward David Montgomery faces a fitness test for the first time, whether he will play for Surrey.

RUGBY UNION: Tour match: Old Sarbitoniens 14, Cork Constitution 0. Schools matches: Bishop's Stortford 10, St Edmund's 4; Kelly 30, Keivnside 0; King's, Canterbury 15, Newcastle RCS 6; Radley 14, Marlborough 3; Stowe 14, Rugby 8; Sutton Valence 16, Hurstlepoint 6.

Double for We

The team seems much stronger than at first feared. When the decision to play the match was announced there were serious doubts about the strength of the Welsh team, and also about the interest that would be aroused in Cardiff by the prospect of the Cardiff club's life. Cardiff, says the hosts, have so few quality players that they will have to have asked for a 3.30 pm kick-off to allow people to travel from

There are four new faces in an experienced assemblage of players. The other new face in addition to the Cardiff players is the powerful and hard-running St Helens centre Steve Baylis.

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Badminton

Stevens will

By Richard Eaton

Ray Stevens, four times national champion, will play with a bandaged hand because of a persistent thumb injury, as he attempts a comeback for England tonight.

England face Sweden in the second match of their series, which is being held at the Richard Dunn Sports Centre in Bradford.

Stevens's decision to play inevitably involves an element of risk, but may pay off in the long run. He has expressed his desire for match practice with the national championships less than two months away. Kevin Jolly, his young American colleague and opponent in the recent, was in remarkably good form in beating the top Swedish, Thomas Kihlstrom, in England's 5-0 win in the opening match at Center on Monday.

Stevens faces Kihlstrom tonight.

The Dodgers won the best-of-five National League championship 3-2 after the Yankees had defeated the American League play-off champion Oakland Athletics last week in three straight games.

Monday's homer came off Montreal's star pitcher, Steve Rogers, who took over at the beginning of the ninth inning when the Yankees had taken the game over for a pinch-hitter in the eighth with the scores tied 1-1.

Burris had beaten the Dodgers' left-hander, Mexican Fernando Valenzuela, in the first game of the series 3-2.

But Valenzuela came back much sharper and allowed the Expos only three hits in the 8½ innings he pitched, two of them in the ninth inning when he yielded the Expos' only run.

Stevens will be

By Richard Eaton

Ray Stevens, four times national champion, will play with a bandage on his hand because of a persistent injury as he attempts to comeback for England tonight.

England face Sweden in the second match of their series, which will be played at the Richard Dunn Sports Centre in Bradford.

Stevens's decision to play inevitably involves an element of risk, but he says he has no desire for match practice with the national championships less than two months away. Kevin Jolly, his training partner and a former Essex county colleague, says Stevens was in remarkably good form in beating the top Swedish, Thomas Kihlstrom, in England's 5-0 win in the opening match at Chester on Monday.

Stevens faces Kihlstrom tonight.

How long the thumb, which was
in a kitchen drawer, will
take to heal completely. The joint
is badly swollen and a specialist
has advised that full recovery may
take several weeks. "I gave it a
knell of a bang and it has taken
me down mentally quite a lot",
he said.

Injured pride at stake against the Americans

Willie Shoemaker, the veteran American jockey, complete with outsize cigar and pint-size pony, discussing today's Chivas-Regal-whisky trophy at Kempton Park with fellow rider Steve Cauthen.

Bob Champion, who had fought off cancer to win the Grand National, received a hero's welcome at Sedgfield yesterday when he had his first mount at the Durham course on Ingham in the Emberton Handicap Hurdle.

Nestor, who like Champion has been ailing ill and was celebrating his 21st birthday, invited him up from Wiltshire to ride Ingham, but the six times course winner could manage only fourth place behind Beau Brigg, despite running on strongly in the closing stages.

Star Burst maintained his great winning run at Hamilton yesterday, making it five wins from seven races there when landing the Whirlies handicap by a short head. "You will remember that victory was the subject of an objection by John Lowe, who rode the runner-up, for," striding my horse around the bend in the closing stages of the race."

The objection was rejected by the stewards, prompting the winning jockey, Nicky Vaughan, now 22, to say "It was a senseless objection, I never even struck his horse. I think it was a very rough

Paris, Oct. 20.—François Bourgeois, 20, trained the winner of today's Prix des Réservoirs at Longchamp, but not as expected with Stavros Niarchos's much fancied Rhythmique. Desmond Stoneham reports.

The first past the post was the 20-1 Coussilla.

The highlight of the afternoon was the first appearance of the Indian King, in the hands of Georges Doleuze, made virtually all the running and could not have left a better impression in the Prix de Lormoy.

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1.15 (2-17) **BERNHILFE STAKES**
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 Mantrean " " Ranch 1-1-1
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 1st Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 TOTE: Win \$1.48; places 17c; 1st 10c.
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 Great at Newmarket, 2-14. 1st. Stags
 Horn 125-1 4th. 15c. 1st.

2.45 (2-18) **BERNHILFE STAKES**
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 Shifteen " " B. Hilde 1-1-1
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 TOTE: Win \$3.74; places 15c; 1st 10c.
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 at Newmarket, 2-14. 1st. Rancho 105-1 1st.

3.15 (3-1) **WHITEHORS MURSEY**
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 Up And At It. 1-1. 1st. 1st. 1st.
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 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 TOTE: Win \$3.74; places 15c; 1st 10c.
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 at Newmarket, 2-14. 1st. Rancho 105-1 1st.

4.45 (3-5) **RICHARD STAKES**
 1 1/2 mi. 1st Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 TOTE: Win \$3.74; places 15c; 1st 10c.
 2nd Div. 1st Race. \$750. 4-15-34
 at Newmarket, 2-14. 1st. Rancho 105-1 1st.

BENTHENS PURDLE (Novices):		Novice Day
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02	Al Smith	...
03	Bob Vennard	...
04	Bob Vennard	...
05	Concepcion	...
06	Concepcion	...
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nam: Good. Thursday: Newbury. First
course: Heavy. Chase and hurdle.
course: Good to soft. Wolverhampton
Heavy. Redcar: Good.

First time blinkers

La creme de la creme

Personal Secretary

£8,600

Our Client, a large international organisation based in the West End of London, is seeking someone of exceptional ability to act as a Personal Secretary to their President.

The post principally involves dealing with the President's personal affairs, therefore a high degree of integrity is essential plus the initiative, charm and the commitment needed for this type of position.

You will need to have a first class secretarial background, with excellent shorthand and typing speeds (minimum 120 words per minute) and have previous experience at board level. Preferred age late 20's - early 30's.

Please write, enclosing full cv, naming companies to which you should not forward your application, quoting Ref. no. RPS22 to Sandra Wren, Royds Personnel Services, Royds House, Mandeville Place, London W1M 6AE.

RPS

SECRETARY/P.A.

FOR MAJOR PUBLISHER

Required in the Chairman and Joint Managing Directors' office of a major publisher of provincial newspapers and magazines. Salary not less than £5,500. Age 25+. The office is currently the responsibility of a secretary with long experience of the company and its personnel. She is due to retire in twelve months and the intention is to identify her successor now. The office will continue to be a busy one, with a high level of activity. The new secretary will have joint responsibility for the current workload and for selecting his/her own successor in about ten months time. The person we are seeking will have a good education, excellent typing and shorthand, will be able to work on own initiative as well as deal with filing and routine jobs. The Management is looking to someone with information systems, with particular reference to personnel records, and experience in this field would be preferred. There is a contributory pension scheme and the holiday entitlement is four weeks per annum. Please write to Mrs E. Postlethwaite, 25-27 Tudor Street, London, EC4V 0DR.

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We are a large International Advertising Agency in Mayfair and are seeking a P.A./Secretary to assist our Managing Director in the efficient organisation of this busy and professional agency. This is a challenging opportunity for someone wishing to work within an advertising environment and who has a good education, a well-educated and intelligent person with a sound secretarial background who has the ability to liaise with both our staff and clients and initiate and follow through on the day to day administration. The salary is negotiable but would reflect the responsibilities involved. We have a subsidised restaurant, wine bar and are happy to offer further details please telephone Helen Bryant on 629 8936.

P.A./SECRETARY TO CHIEF EXECUTIVE

£7,800

Large Printing company in North West London. The P.A./Secretary to the Chief Executive. At least 2 years experience as Secretary to a Director or Senior Executive and speeds of 120/60 are essential, as the ability to act independently and flexibly. Age 25-40, 5 weeks holiday.

Ring K J McMahon on 01-965 6131 ext. 66

ADMINISTRATION PLUS BLACKFIARS

Work with young highly qualified people in pleasant surroundings. Professional office consultancy group need intelligent, quick all-rounder to look after the administration and to provide general office back-up. Impeccable typing necessary, word-processing knowledge useful.

Talk to Elaine 01-553 9961

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CORDON BLEU
STANDARD
COOK/
HOUSE KEEPER

Single, aged 23-30 required for young Managing Director living in penthouse in new block in Central London. Must be well presented and have excellent references. Own hours: 10.00-6.00. 2nd floor, 1st floor, 2nd floor, 3rd floor, 4th floor, 5th floor, 6th floor, 7th floor, 8th floor, 9th floor, 10th floor, 11th floor, 12th floor, 13th floor, 14th floor, 15th floor, 16th floor, 17th floor, 18th floor, 19th floor, 20th floor, 21st floor, 22nd floor, 23rd floor, 24th floor, 25th floor, 26th floor, 27th floor, 28th floor, 29th floor, 30th floor, 31st floor, 32nd floor, 33rd floor, 34th floor, 35th floor, 36th floor, 37th floor, 38th floor, 39th floor, 40th floor, 41st floor, 42nd floor, 43rd floor, 44th floor, 45th floor, 46th floor, 47th floor, 48th floor, 49th floor, 50th floor, 51st floor, 52nd floor, 53rd floor, 54th floor, 55th floor, 56th floor, 57th floor, 58th floor, 59th floor, 60th floor, 61st floor, 62nd floor, 63rd floor, 64th floor, 65th floor, 66th floor, 67th floor, 68th floor, 69th floor, 70th floor, 71st floor, 72nd floor, 73rd floor, 74th floor, 75th floor, 76th floor, 77th floor, 78th floor, 79th floor, 80th floor, 81st floor, 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Timesharing - with a whole world of difference

Holiday homes abroad

Building castles in Spain and other things

One of the few rays of sunshine to pierce the recessionary gloom in Britain is the sale of holiday homes abroad.

Since the Chancellor abolished exchange controls there has been a flood of people seeking homes abroad.

Strangely Greece, although a popular destination, is less so when it comes to buying a home on the Mediterranean. Spain is the most popular place for a holiday home.

Tomorrow another international property exhibition opens at London's Cumberland Hotel. The show runs for three days, and is open from 11.00 am until 8.00 pm except Saturday when the hours are 10.00 am to 4.00 pm.

Organised and promoted by Domes Publications the exhibition contains a wide cross-section of properties for sale in a variety of locations throughout Britain, Europe and North America.

Since exchange controls were lifted there has been an increased interest in buying abroad. Partly this was due to the abolition of the punitive dollar premium which because many people had come to realise how cheap a property can be, and also because there was a real desire by Britons to diversify their assets.

The advent of cheap flights and a strong pound has encouraged many potential buyers to seek more exotic locations in the Caribbean and Florida in particular.

Unfortunately in recent months sterling has fallen and the future of some cheap flights has become uncertain.

Property abroad really divides into two distinct categories: owner-occupied and holiday homes.

development can be difficult but, when you have narrowed down the field, an inspection flight is essential before finally making your choice. Virtually all developers or agents organize trips and if they do not then you should probably avoid the scheme.

Decide what you want from your place in the sun. If it is peace and quiet with plenty of opportunity to relax then you should take a look at El Capistrano at Nerja, which is being marketed by Asset International in Britain. The same company is offering time sharing schemes close to championship golf courses.

But if sailing is your particular love then look at Puerto de la Duquesa. Run by a Swiss company it has been developed around a marina 20km east of Gibraltar, which has been designated by the Spanish Government as an all-year-round harbour.

When you have bought into a time sharing development you own your weeks and can do exactly what you like with them. You can use them or swap them—the choice is yours.

With most developments there comes membership of Resorts Condominium International, or another international swapping system. For a small fee you can literally swap your weeks in one development for a similar period in another resort in a totally different country.

Time sharing represents an investment too. Property and land prices in Spain, for example, are increasing at roughly 15 per cent a year; and at the same time, construction costs are rising. Thus the value of your weeks are increasing by around 15 per cent a year.

How to own a villa in the most beautiful part of Spain



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The El Capistrano brochures list a detailed list of villas and apartments for sale in the Nerja area, the most beautiful part of the Costa del Sol.

See the El Capistrano film

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear

BBC 1

6.40am Open University: Linear Maths: Review: 7.05 The New Forest: 7.30 Circles: 7.55 Close Down: 8.05 For Schools: Computers: Engineering Craft Studies: 9.30 Science Workshop: Fabrics: 10.00 You and Me: (not schools) (1): 11.00 Words and Pictures: 11.17 Trigonometry: 11.40 Exams and All That: 12.05 French conversation: 12.30 News After Noon with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart: 1.00 Pebble Mill at One: In the Star Chef spot this afternoon is Clement Freud who prepares quiches of cod and a hanger cure: 1.45 Postman Pat: A See-Saw programme for the very young: 2.00 For Schools: Colleges: The Asian Festival of Light: 2.15 Hitler's Germany: 2.40 At the Dentist: 3.00 Close Down: 3.15 Songs of Praise from St Giles' Church, West Bridgford (1).

BBC 2

10.20am Gharbar: A magazine programme with advice for Asian women. 10.45 Close Down. 11.00 Play School: Carol Chell and Chris Brownell are the presenters and the story is Orange Boats and Apple Waves by Phyllis Kew. 11.25 Close Down.

Amel Loubert
Lucy Borge (BBC 29.25pm)

ITV/LONDON

9.30 For Schools: The Olympics: 9.47 A tall animal: 10.04 Working in a police station: 10.16 A day trip to: 10.30 Relationships: 11.02 The computers role in medicine: 11.20 Elementary science: 11.39 How we used to live: 12.00 The Munch Bunch: Animated adventures of talking vegetables: 12.10 Rainbow: Educational puppet: 12.30 Turning Point: Corn Morris talks to a man whose life has been saved by the Gamblers' Anonymous organisation: 1.00 News: 1.20 Thames News: 1.30 Armchair Theatre: Part four of Dying Day. The day Skippling believes he is going to be killed arrives but it does not turn out as expected: 2.00 Afternoon News Plus: Aida talks to the new Secretary of State for Employment, Norman Tebbit: 2.25 International Jockeys' Championship from Kempton Park. Introduced by Brough Scott with Willie Carson. Five jockeys from America and five representing the UK compete for the Chivers Regal Trophy. The races are the 2.45, 3.20 and 3.55.

3.55 Play School, (shown earlier on BBC 2).
4.20 Cartoon: Mighty Mouse in Hero for a Day.
4.25 Jackanory: Philip Madoc reads part three of The Black Horn.
4.40 The Record Breakers Presented by Roy Castle and Norris McWhirter. The first in a new series.
5.05 John Craven's Newsround. Up-to-the-minute news from around the world.
5.10 God's Wonderful Railway. Part two of the serial about the building of the GWR (1).
5.40 News with Richard Baker: 6.00 Regional news magazines: 6.25 Nationwide.
6.55 Film: Banjo Hackett (1976) The adventures of a horse trader in the American West during the 1880s. He is forced to sell a horse belonging to his sister when she dies to pay off her debts. He is determined to repossess it and give it to his orphaned nephew.
8.30 Fighter Pilot. Then there were two. Only a brace of aerobics survive to go to the Advanced Flying School in Anglesey.

9.00 Party Political Broadcast on behalf of the Conservative Party.
9.05 News read by John Humphrys.
9.30 All These Happy Mad Stories. The first of a four-part series about the real-life dramas of a Social Services department in Nottingham.
10.05 Sportnight introduced by Harry Carpenter. Highlights from one of the European trophy matches featuring one of the eight remaining British clubs.
10.58 News headlines.
11.00 Parkinson. His guests tonight are Neil Dunn, Patrick Lichfield, Haley Mills and George Shearing.
12.00 Weather.

BBC1 VARIATIONS: CYMRU/WALES 11.7am-11.40am: Ysgolion: 11.40-12.05: Ysgolion: 12.05-12.10: Ysgolion: 12.10-12.15: Ysgolion: 12.15-12.20: Ysgolion: 12.20-12.25: Ysgolion: 12.25-12.30: Ysgolion: 12.30-12.35: Ysgolion: 12.35-12.40: Ysgolion: 12.40-12.45: Ysgolion: 12.45-12.50: Ysgolion: 12.50-12.55: Ysgolion: 12.55-12.58: Ysgolion: 12.58-12.59: Ysgolion: 12.59-1.00: Ysgolion: 1.00-1.05: Ysgolion: 1.05-1.10: Ysgolion: 1.10-1.15: Ysgolion: 1.15-1.20: Ysgolion: 1.20-1.25: Ysgolion: 1.25-1.30: Ysgolion: 1.30-1.35: Ysgolion: 1.35-1.40: Ysgolion: 1.40-1.45: Ysgolion: 1.45-1.50: Ysgolion: 1.50-1.55: Ysgolion: 1.55-1.58: Ysgolion: 1.58-1.59: Ysgolion: 1.59-2.00: Ysgolion: 2.00-2.05: Ysgolion: 2.05-2.10: Ysgolion: 2.10-2.15: Ysgolion: 2.15-2.20: Ysgolion: 2.20-2.25: Ysgolion: 2.25-2.30: Ysgolion: 2.30-2.35: Ysgolion: 2.35-2.40: Ysgolion: 2.40-2.45: Ysgolion: 2.45-2.50: Ysgolion: 2.50-2.55: Ysgolion: 2.55-2.58: Ysgolion: 2.58-2.59: Ysgolion: 2.59-3.00: Ysgolion: 3.00-3.05: Ysgolion: 3.05-3.10: 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